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Words of Life

FOR

1905

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Words of Life

FOR

1905

SELECTED AND ARRANGED

BY

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THIS Book may be compared to the Klondike miner, who, having delved long in the earth, leaves behind him vast piles of refuse, and comes to his friends bringing only the pure gold.

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BY
WILLIAM SALTER

As those old Romans robbed all the cities of the world to set out Rome, we skim off the cream of other men's wits, and pick out the choice flowers of their gardens.

ROBERT BURTON,
Died January 25, 1630, aged 64.

JANUARY 1.

Great God! we sing that mighty hand,
By which supported still we stand;
The opening year Thy mercy shows;
Let mercy crown it till it close.

Philip Doddridge, died 1751, aged 49.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Alfred Tennyson, died 1892, aged 83.

JANUARY 2.

Truth is continually presenting new aspects, which call for new forms of statement. More and more Christ is recognized as supreme authority. The constructive principle of theology is no longer Sovereignty, but Love. Christ inspired the love-atmosphere, from which have come multiplied philanthropies. Hence the increasing application of Christian principle to all forms of life, in society, industry, and the State, in literature, art, and diversion. A new morality has come, the law of Love instead of the code of abstract right.

William W. Adams.

JANUARY 3.

Do you wish for kindness? be kind;
Do you wish for truth? be true;
What you give of yourself, you find;
Your world is a reflex of you.

He who gives himself airs of importance exhibits credentials of impotence.

Lavater, died 1801, aged 60.

JANUARY 4.

God, overflowing with goodness, desiring to have angels and men to whom He could do good, made men in his own image to be rulers of the earth. The image of God consisted in power of thought and freedom of will. Man decides on his own actions. God assists by his grace those who will avail themselves of it. With all this, it remains true that virtue comes from God. He implanted it in nature; by his support alone it is maintained. Nature, rational and free, is a gift of grace. To be natural is to be virtuous; conversion is a return from the unnatural.

John of Damascus, died 780, aged 94.

JANUARY 5.

Let me ask, ere in the night's repose I rest,
What good or ill has this day's life expressed?
Where have I been? In what have I transgressed?
Where have I failed in what I ought to do?
In what to God, to man, or to myself I owe?
If evil I have done, let me in sorrow mourn,
And let my soul with strong remorse be torn;
If good, the good with peace of mind repay,
And to my secret self with pleasure say,
Rejoice, my heart, for all went well to-day.

Pythagoras, died aged 74, B. C. 504.

JANUARY 6.

I have enjoyed the refinement of the best society, but I have never sat in the palaces of England without being pained by the inequality of which the inordinate luxury was the token.

I was anxious that our country should take the lead in the disarmament of the nations.

Charles Sumner, born Jan. 6, 1811.

JANUARY 7.

The indignation towards the mention of Jesus which filled Jewish hearts during centuries of persecution, is being replaced in the modern Jewish mind by a keen appreciation of the beauty and the nobleness of character of Jesus. His wisdom, gentleness, unselfishness, and his love for humanity, are becoming better understood, so that the modern Jew looks upon Jesus as one of the greatest gifts that Israel has given to the world.

Harris Weinstock.

I would not have any one preacher give me a distaste for all others, but should choose one who will give me such relish and respect for the word of God, as may dispose me to hear it wherever preached.

Fenelon, died Jan. 7, 1715, aged 64.

JANUARY 8.

Acts of worship should generally be addressed directly to God or consist of rehearsals of truths and events, or exhortations and appeals to the heart, which are adapted to turn the heart to God.

Chanting is a form of church music so scriptural, simple, venerable, and appropriate to public worship, that it must gain favor with those who love to make melody in their hearts to the Lord.

Lowell Mason, born Jan. 8, 1792.

JANUARY 9.

There is a young lady in New Haven (Sarah Pierrepont, born January 9, 1710), who is beloved of that great Being who made the world, and there are seasons in which this Being in some way invisible comes to her, and fills her mind with exceeding delight. She has a strange sweetness in her mind, and singular purity in her affections, and you could not persuade her to do anything wrong if you would give her all the world. She is of wonderful calmness and universal benevolence of mind, especially after this great God has manifested himself to her. She will sometimes go about from place to place singing sweetly, and seems always full of joy and pleasure. She loves to be alone walking in the fields and groves, and seems to have some One invisible always conversing with her.

Jonathan Edwards, born Oct. 5, 1703.

JANUARY 10.

As I was walking in my father's pasture, and looking upon the sky and clouds, there came into my mind so sweet a sense of the glorious majesty and grace of God as I know not how to express. I seemed to see them both in a sweet conjunction; majesty and meekness joined together; a sweet and gentle and holy majesty and a majestic meekness; an awful sweetness, a high and great and holy gentleness. I thought with myself, how happy I should be if I might enjoy that God, and be rapt up in him forever.

Jonathan Edwards, circa 1720.

JANUARY 11.

Alexander Hamilton (born Jan. 11, 1757) smote the rock of the national resources, and abundant streams of revenue gushed forth. He touched the dead corpse of public credit, and it sprang upon its feet.

Daniel Webster, born Jan. 18, 1782.

In Hamilton's death (July 12, 1804) the country experienced a loss second only to that of Washington. He possessed the same rare and lofty qualities, the same balance of soul, with less of Washington's severe simplicity, and awe-inspiring presence, but more of warmth, ornament and grace. *Richard Hildreth*, born June 28, 1807.

The bravest are the tenderest,
The loving are the daring.

Bayard Taylor, born Jan. 11, 1825.

JANUARY 12.

On January 12, 1723, I made a dedication of myself to God, and wrote it down; giving up myself and all I had to God; to be for the future in no respect my own. I solemnly vowed to take God for my whole portion and felicity, and his law for the constant rule of my obedience, engaging to fight with all my might against the world, the flesh, and the devil, to the end of my life. I frequently used to retire on the banks of Hudson river, at some distance from the city (New York), for contemplation on divine things and secret converse with God, and had many sweet hours there.

Jonathan Edwards.

JANUARY 13.

I pray you all to live together
Like brethren; yet what hatred Christian men
Bear to each other! But do you good to all
As much as in you lieth. Hurt no man more
Than you would harm your loving natural brother
Of the same roof, same breast. If any do,
Albeit he think himself at home with God,
Of this be sure, he is whole worlds away.

Tennyson, born Jan. 12, 1809.

JANUARY 14.

(To those that own exceeding wealth)
Remember that sore saying spoken once
By him that was the Truth, 'How hard it is
For the rich man to enter into heaven;'
Let all rich men remember that hard word;
Let them flow forth in charity. Give to the poor,
Ye give to God. He is with us in the poor.

I doubt not through the ages one increasing purpose runs,
And the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns.

Tennyson.

JANUARY 15.

Strong Son of God, immortal Love,
Whom we, that have not seen thy face,
By faith, and faith alone, embrace,
Believing where we cannot prove;

Thou seemest human and divine,
The highest, holiest manhood, thou :
Our wills are ours, we know not how:
Our wills are ours, to make them thine.

Tennyson.

JANUARY 16.

Of all God's works, which do this world adorn,
There is no one more fair and excellent
Than is man's body, both for power and form,
While it is kept in sober government;
But none that is more foul and indecent,
Distempered through misrule and passions base.

Every spirit, as it is most pure
And hath in it the more of heavenly light,
So it the fairer body doth procure
To habit in, and it more fairly dight
With cheerful grace and amiable sight.
For of the soul the body form doth take;
For soul is form, and doth the body make.

Edmund Spenser, died Jan. 16, 1599, aged 47.

JANUARY 17.

From the poverty and obscurity in which I was born, and in which I passed my earliest years, I have raised myself to a state of affluence and some degree of celebrity in the world. And I desire with humility to acknowledge that I attribute the happiness of my life to divine Providence, which led to the means I used, and gave the success.

There never has been nor ever will be a good war or a bad peace.

Benjamin Franklin, born Jan. 15, 1706.

JANUARY 18.

I am not in haste to see Sheffields and Birminghams in America, or to accelerate the period when the mass of American labor shall not find its employment in the field; when men shall shut their eyes upon Nature, the heavens and the earth, and immerse themselves in close and unwholesome workshops; when they shall shut their ears to the bleatings of their flocks upon their own hills, and to the voice of the lark that cheers them at the plough, that they may open them in dust and smoke and steam to the whirl of spools and spindles and the grating of rasps and saws. *Daniel Webster*, born Jan. 18, 1782.

JANUARY 19.

It is characteristic of the pleasures of our animal nature, that the agreeable feeling of them pertains to the individual. It passes with the moment; a thousand such experiences make no one richer.

But in the moral life we rise out of self-indulgence into a common sphere with other spiritual beings, into the life of truth and goodness, into sympathy with the Eternal. We put away selfishness, and our life becomes one and the same with the life divine,—likeness to God no more a far off hope, but a present experience. Struggle may continue in the outward life, but in the mind the strife is over, the victory won; hope passes into fruition, struggle into conquest, effort and endeavor into the peace that passeth understanding. *John Caird.*

JANUARY 20.

Be civil to all; sociable to many; familiar with few; friend to one; enemy to none.

God has often called men to places of dignity and honor when they have been busy in their vocation: Moses from keeping Jethro's sheep; David keeping his father's sheep; the four Apostles from their fishery; Matthew from the receipt of custom. He never encourages idleness, and despises not persons in mean employments.

Benjamin Franklin.

JANUARY 21.

The English race has inherited the pride, as it has inherited the grandeur of the Roman people—not the vile Romans enslaved by Augustus, but the sterling Romans of the Republic. And that race, like the Romans to their tributaries, has been fierce and rapacious in Ireland. Despite a thousand blots, however, the English race is of all modern races and of all Christian countries the one which has best preserved the three fundamental bases of every society worthy of man—the spirit of liberty, the spirit of family, and the spirit of religion.

Montalembert, 1777-1831.

JANUARY 22.

Two went to pray! Oh, rather say,
One went to brag, the other to pray;
One stands up close and treads on high,
Where the other dares not lend his eye;
One nearer to God's altar trod,
The other nearer to the altar's God.

Richard Crashaw, 1600-1650.

JANUARY 23.

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth." This declaration expresses a sense of communion and fellowship between the human creature and the divine Creator, oneness of the human and the divine nature, God our Father, ourselves His children.

Jesus Christ showed me that this world was inexplicable without God, and explicable with Him. In his influence upon our race, Jesus has left behind Judea, and become the possession of the world.

Phillips Brooks, died Jan. 23, 1893, aged 57.

JANUARY 24.

It would be thought a hard Government that should tax its people one-tenth of their time to be employed in its service. But Idleness taxes much more, if we reckon all that is spent in doing nothing with that spent in employments or amusements that amount to nothing. Laziness travels so slowly that Poverty soon overtakes him. Drive thy business; let not that drive thee. There are no gains without pains.

As the borrower is slave to the lender, and the debtor to the creditor, disdain the chain, maintain independence; be industrious, frugal, and free. For age and want save while you may. This is reason and wisdom. But do not depend too much on your industry and frugality. Ask the blessing of Heaven, and be not uncharitable to those that want it, but comfort and help them.

B. Franklin (Poor Richard, 1758).

JANUARY 25.

To make a happy fireside clime for weans and wife,—
That's the true pathos and sublime of human life.

But deep this truth impressed my mind,—
Through all His works abroad,
The heart benevolent and kind
The most resembles God.

Prudent, cautious self-control is wisdom's root.

Robert Burns, born Jan. 25, 1759.

JANUARY 26.

Our history proves that with wisdom and knowledge men may govern themselves, and the duty incumbent on us is, to preserve the cheering example, and take care that nothing may weaken its authority in the world. If, in our case, the Representative system fails, popular governments must be pronounced impossible. No combination of circumstances more favorable to the experiment can ever be expected to occur. The last hopes of mankind, therefore, rest with us, and should it be proclaimed that our experiment had become an argument against the experiment, the knell of popular liberty would be sounded throughout the earth. *Daniel Webster.*

JANUARY 27.

If heaven could be obtained without the necessity of a good life, there would be no infidels. We look upon reason as the native lamp of the soul, kindled by the Creator to conduct us in our actions. Far from declining the trial of reason, Religion appeals to it, is supported by it, and cannot continue pure without it.

Richard Bentley, born Jan. 27, 1662.

JANUARY 28.

In 1739, the Rev. George Whitefield arrived in Philadelphia. The multitudes that attended his sermons were enormous. I happened to attend one. I perceived he intended to finish with a collection (for an Orphan Home in Georgia), and I silently resolved he should get nothing from me. I had in my pocket a handful of copper money, three or four silver dollars; and five pistoles in gold. As he proceeded, I began to soften, and concluded to give the copper. Another stroke of his oratory made me ashamed of that, and determined me to give the silver; and he finished so admirably, that I emptied my pocket wholly into the collector's dish, gold and all. *B. Franklin.*

JANUARY 29.

From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through every land, by every tongue.

Isaac Watts.

JANUARY 30.

The Church is good only as it is Christian. We hope there will always be enough of Christ's spirit in the society which bears his name to bring about such reforms as may be necessary to make it serve the end for which it was instituted. Should this hope be disappointed, the visible church, as we know it, will pass away, leaving the spirit of Christ room to make a new experiment under happier auspices of self-realization.

Alexander B. Bruce, born Jan. 30, 1831.

JANUARY 31.

A man's task in his life-preserver. Economy is a high, humane office, a sacrament, when it is the prudence of simple tastes, when it is practiced for freedom, or love, or devotion. Labor is God's education. A man should have a farm or a mechanical craft for his culture. Not only health, but education is in the work.

R. W. Emerson.

FEBRUARY 1.

If we maintain our political union, exceeding all praise, as it exceeds all former political associations, we may be sure of one thing, that, while our country furnishes materials for a thousand masters of the historic art, it will afford no topic for a Gibbon. It will have no Decline and Fall. *Daniel Webster.*

FEBRUARY 2.

I profess to feel a strong attachment to the Constitution and institutions of the United tSates, to the honor and glory of the Government. I feel every injury inflicted upon this country almost as a personal injury. I blush for every fault which I see committed in its public councils, as if they were faults or mistakes of my own. We cannot withdraw from the commendations or the reproaches of the civilized world. They see us as that Star of empire which was predicted, making its way westward. I wish they may see it as a mild, placid, though brilliant orb, making its way athwart the heavens to the enlightening and cheering of mankind, not a meteor of fire and blood terrifying the nations. *Daniel Webster.*

FEBRUARY 3.

Long as thy God is God above,
Thy brother every man below,
So long, dear Land of all my love,
Thy name shall shine, thy fame shall glow.

Sidney Lanier, born Feb. 3, 1842.

The law of our nature is that we love in reply to love. "God is Love." It is the one struggle to believe this. In spite of the clouded mystery in which God has shrouded Himself, in spite of the seeming cruelties of this life, and the gathering of thick darkness and more solemn silence round the soul as life goes on, to believe this, and hold it fast, as a man holds on to a rock with a desperate grip when the salt surf and the driving waves sweep over him,—this is the fight of the Christian life, compared with which all else is easy.

Frederick W. Robertson, born Feb. 3, 1816.

FEBRUARY 4.

Religion without morality is a superstition and a curse. The only salvation for man is in the union of the two.

If a man would strengthen his intellectual faculties, he must exercise them; if he would improve his taste, he must employ it on objects of taste; if he would improve his moral nature, he must perform acts of goodness.

Mark Hopkins, born Feb. 4, 1802.

FEBRUARY 5.

Where God is, there is his foster-child, Patience. She fortifieth faith, guideth peace, assisteth charity, instructeth humility, rules the flesh, bridles the tongue, restrains the hand, treads temptation under foot, orders the rich, consoles the poor, strains not the weak, wastes not the strong, commends the servant to his master, his master to God, adorns the woman, approves the man, is loved in the boy, praised in the young man, respected in the old, is beautiful in every sex, in every age.

Tertullian, died A. D. 230, aged 70.

FEBRUARY 6.

President Lincoln's declaration, "I have a vow registered in heaven that I will preserve ,protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States," carried him and the people through the struggles, the dangers, the vicissitudes of the rebellion. That vow, this oath, this duty of the President, the people do not regard as personal to him, but an oath and duty assumed and to be performed as their representative.

William M. Evarts, born Feb. 6, 1818.

FEBRUARY 7.

It was in the reign of George III that England lost North America by persisting in taxing her without her own consent. That immense country, made independent under Washington, and left to itself, became the United States—one of the greatest nations of the earth.

Charles Dickens, born Feb. 7, 1812.

FEBRUARY 8.

The love of nature is a characteristic of the Christian heart.

Great becomes the likelihood of error in the description of things seen from a distance, of which many of the distinctive features have been worn away by time. Few people have any idea of the cost of truth in these things, of the way in which separate observations falsify each other, incapable of reconcilement, owing to some inadvertence. So far as my time, and strength and mind served me, I have endeavored, down to the smallest matters, to ascertain and speak the truth.

John Ruskin, born Feb. 8, 1819.

FEBRUARY 9.

The axe which struck the head of Mary Stuart from her body (Feb. 8, 1587) dealt the most crushing blow to the theory of the divine right of kings. An anointed queen, widow of an anointed king, was tried like an ordinary criminal. She plead exemption from the law because of royal blood, but she was convicted and put to death; whether rightfully or wrongfully may be disputed; but the principle was established that kings are not above law.

Douglas Campbell.

FEBRUARY 10.

As it is my belief that the Words of Christ, and his Words alone, the primal indefeasible truths of Christianity, shall not pass away, so I cannot presume to say that men may not attain to a clearer sense of those Words than has yet been reached. Christianity may approximate more closely to Christ, may establish the union of religion and reason, keep in tune the harmony of holiness and charity, assert freedom, and exercise a wider influence through its principles in the civilization of mankind.

Henry Hart Milman, born Feb. 10, 1791.

FEBRUARY 11.

The world is so full of sadness that I make it a point to avoid all sadness that does not come in the way of duty. I have prisms in my windows to fill the room with rainbows. I cultivate gay flowers. I seek cheerfulness in every possible way.

Lydia Maria Child, born Feb. 11, 1802.

FEBRUARY 12.

The Churches of New England are very like unto those that were in the first ages of Christianity. The first age was the golden age; to return unto that, will make a man a Protestant, and, I may add, a Puritan.

Cotton Mather, born Feb. 11, 1663.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in.

Abraham Lincoln, born Feb. 12, 1809.

FEBRUARY 13.

My faith in human nature, my belief in the progress of man to a better social condition, and my trust in the ability of men to establish and maintain self-government, are as fresh and as strong as when I began to travel the path of life. *Peter Cooper*, born Feb. 12, 1809.

I believe I have acted rightly in devoting my life to science; I feel no remorse for having committed any great sin; but have often regretted that I have not done more direct good to my fellow creatures.

Charles Darwin, born Feb. 12, 1809.

FEBRUARY 14.

Truth, justice, oath, duty, control the life, liberty, character, and property of every citizen. They are little words, but they have great power. The furies of Greek mythology had charge of the sanctions of an oath. The imaginations of the prophets sanction the solemnity of an oath, and people the place of punishment with oath-breakers. The tortures and torments of history are applied to public servants, who, in betrayal of sworn trusts, disobey those obligations without which society falls to pieces.

W. M. Evarts.

FEBRUARY 15.

I write the wonders of the Christian Religion, flying from the depravations of Europe, and report the wonderful displays of power, wisdom, and goodness, wherewith Providence hath irradiated an Indian Wilderness. 'Tis possible that our Lord Jesus Christ carried some thousands of Reformers into the retirements of an American desert, on purpose that he might there, to them first, and then by them, give a specimen of many good things which he would have his churches elsewhere aspire and arise unto.

Cotton Mather, died Feb. 13, 1728, aged 65.

FEBRUARY 16.

I have left unmentioned some censurable occurrences in our Colonies, as things no less unuseful than improper to be raised out of the grave.

The greatest honor and the sweetest pleasure, out of heaven, is to serve our illustrious Lord Jesus Christ.

Unto Thee, O Son of God, and Lord of all things, I humbly offer up a poor history of churches, which own Thee alone for their Prince and Head and Lawgiver. I pray Thee to make it acceptable and profitable unto thy churches, and serve thy truths and ways among thy people, by that which Thou hast here prepared.

Cotton Mather.

FEBRUARY 17.

It is the condition of free constitutions that the people be trained to self-government. Moral control in place of public control is the distinction of a Republic, grounded in a more complete government in the habits of the people themselves. Under this condition laws are fewer, punishments are mitigated, the police are at their own private employments, and come only when sent for, fortresses no where appear to annoy the sense of liberty. We have gone a length in this direction which to a European will appear incredible. While I ponder this sublime distinction of our country not without fear, I am swallowed up into admiration of that power by which our fathers set our history on a footing so peculiar.

Horace Bushnell. died Feb. 17, 1876, aged 74.

FEBRUARY 18.

I owe all to labor, nothing to genius. As long as a man walks in another's footsteps, he remains behind him.

Michel Angelo.

Died Feb. 17, 1563, on the threshold of his 90th year.

Gentlemen choose not their task;
They choose to do it well.

George Eliot.

FEBRUARY 19.

The Reformation from popery, which Wycliffe attempted in the fourteenth century, and for which Huss and Jerome of Prague were martyrs in the fifteenth, was successfully begun by Luther twenty-five years after the discovery of America. All Europe was convulsed with a great intellectual and moral emancipation. The cause of the Reformation was essentially the cause of freedom, of manly thought, of inquiry, of popular improvement, of universal education. When religion, instead of being an affair between man and his priest, becomes an affair between man and his God, the dignity of man as man at once outshines the dignity of pontiffs and of kings.

Leonard Bacon, born Feb. 19, 1802.

FEBRUARY 20.

The only constant form of Pure Religion is in useful work, in faithful love, in stintless charity.

John Ruskin.

FEBRUARY 21.

No man or set of men are entitled to prescribe as a term of communion what the New Testament has not enjoined as a condition of salvation.

Robert Hall, died Feb. 21, 1831, aged 67.

FEBRUARY 22.

The chill season now again brings in its annual round the morn,
When greatest of the sons of men our Washington was born. *W. C. Bryant.*

I make it my earnest prayer that God would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, without an imitation of whose example in these things, we cannot hope to be a happy nation.

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these pillars of human happiness. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them.

George Washington, born Feb. 22, 1732.

FEBRUARY 23

Washington, not father of his country only, but world-father also, inserting his grand fatherhood into kings, emperors, peoples, laws, accepted more and more reverently by the compulsion of good in his life, and reigning as a kind of civil-state Messiah that has come to propagate his sway in laws and liberties.

Horace Bushnell.

FEBRUARY 24.

Jesus and the Apostles treated Christianity as the completion and supplement of natural religion and of previous revelations. As they appeal to the God of nature, we must follow them in this appeal. Christianity recognizes and depends on the religion of nature; how can it prove its claims except by an appeal to what men have already?

John Henry Newman, born Feb. 21, 1801.

FEBRUARY 25.

The earth is a star's satellite. We are citizens of the sky. Whether we know it or not, we are living in the stars. *Camille Flammarion,* born Feb. 25, 1842.

Let us believe with all our hearts that Time, however inscrutably, is hewing out for our country the most colossal and resplendent result in history.

George William Curtis, born Feb. 25, 1821.

FEBRUARY 26.

Reciprocity treaties are in harmony with the spirit of the times; measures of retaliation are not.

William McKinley, born Feb. 26, 1844.

The material nature of man is wearied out at night, and seeks lassitude and repose. The eyes of flesh close. Other eyes open. The unknown reveals itself. Shadowy pictures of the invisible world come. A phantom creation walks by our side, invisible in the daylight world.

Victor Hugo, born Feb. 26, 1802.

FEBRUARY 27.

Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.

Be mine a life of action. I will work in my own sphere, nor wish it other than it is. This alone is health and happiness.

Henry W. Longfellow, born Feb. 27, 1807.

FEBRUARY 28.

Nobody possessing a scientific culture of mind can accept the decrees of the Vatican Council. Having gone over the whole ground of ecclesiastical history, the result is that the proofs of the falsehood of the Vatican decrees amount to a demonstration. When I am told that I must swear to the truth of those dogmas, my feeling is as if I were asked to swear that two and two make five and not four. *Ignatius von Dollinger*, born Feb. 28, 1799.

I would rather the members of the church should be at variance than that they should agree in that which is evil. *Isaac Casaubon*, 1559-1614.

MARCH 1.

March that blusters, and March that blows,
What color under your footsteps glows!
Beauty you summon from winter snows,
You are the pathway that leads to the rose.

Celia Thaxter.

MARCH 2.

In 1725, I resolved to dedicate my life to God; all my thoughts, words and actions, being thoroughly convinced there was no medium, but that every part of my life must be either a sacrifice to God, or to myself, that is, in effect, to the devil.

In 1726, the religion of the heart appeared to me in a stronger light than before. I saw that simplicity of intention, purity of affection, one design in all we say or do, and one desire, ruling our tempers, are the wings of the soul, without which we can never ascend to the mount of God.

In 1729, I saw in a clearer light the necessity of having the mind which was in Christ, and of walking as he walked, not only in most respects, but in all things.

John Wesley, died March 2, 1781, aged 88.

MARCH 3.

One day an emigrant stopped at my store, and asked me to buy a barrel of odds and ends, of little value, for which he had no room in his wagon. I bought it, and put it away, and never thought of it until, rearranging things, the stuff turned up. I found in it a two-volume copy of Blackstone's Commentaries. I devoured them. I never read anything which so interested and thrilled me. Soon after I began the study of law, and that is how I came to be a lawyer. *A. Lincoln.*

MARCH 4.

I wish a course of lectures to be given on Natural Religion, showing its conformity to that of our Saviour, disputed points of faith and ceremony to be avoided, the attention of the lecturers to be directed to the moral doctrines of the Gospel. *John Lowell, Jr.*

Founder of the Lowell Lectures, died March 4, 1836, aged 37.

MARCH 5.

Let the Sabbath be honored for the sake of the spiritual nature. The religious life may derive warmth from the few moments of daily devotion, from holy thoughts in the midst of toil and care. But I have yet to learn that daily devotion can be well sustained without the Sabbath. "Make all days alike," is a maxim frequently urged. I would echo it. But level up, not down. Let Sabbath thoughts and feelings flow into the week-days, and render the whole life purer, nobler, more faithful, more heavenly.

A. P. Peabody.

MARCH 6.

Some deny the Infinite, as some deny the sun. They are the blind. *Victor Hugo.*

MARCH 7.

American slavery died a death of violence, to our shame be it said; for the Nation had not virtue, temperance, and wisdom enough to abolish it peacefully and harmlessly *Francis Parkman.*

Ignorance and Evil, even in full flight, deal terrible back-handed blows.

Arthur Helps, died March 7, 1857, aged 58.

MARCH 8.

A knowledge of the human mind is of all studies the highest. Says an ancient philosopher, "On earth there is nothing great but man; in man, there is nothing great but his mind."

William Hamilton, born March 8, 1788.

Religion should be like rain, which descends in a million little drops, and is not ashamed to sink into the ground, where the roots are. The way the drop of water comes to swing in the leaf, as it flaunts in the sun and wind all summer long, is by going down into the ground.

Henry Ward Beecher.

Died March 8, 1887, aged 74.

MARCH 9.

Life! We have been long together,
Through pleasant and through cloudy weather;
'Tis hard to part when friends are dear;
Perhaps will cost a sigh, a tear;
Then steal away, give little warning;
Choose thine own time;
Say not "Good Night,"
But in some brighter clime
Bid me "Good Morning."

Anna B. Barbauld.
Died March 9, 1825, aged 82.

MARCH 10.

In some vagary, never fully explained, Mr. Cleveland startled a peaceful world one day by proposing a war between the United States and England. The fair prospects of the year were blighted in a moment. Inconsiderate words broke up industrial plans which ranged forward for years. At the Mohonk Conference (1901) there was an evident feeling that we are no longer in the wilderness. We are in the Promised land, and it is time to take the promises. *Edward Everett Hale.*

MARCH 11.

Reason is the voice of God. To go against reason is to go against God. A man has as much right to use his understanding in judging of truth, as he has to use his eyes to see his way.

Benjamin Whichcote, born March 11, 1610.

One of the first elements of freedom is to be out of debt, "the glorious privilege of being independent." I never had a bill presented to me twice, nor a note discounted. *Francis Wayland*, born March 11, 1796.

MARCH 12.

The highest view of Christianity regards it as the religion of nature, the law of the spiritual universe, corresponding to the laws embodied in the material universe. Revelation did not create it, any more than Newton created the law of gravitation, or Kepler the laws of planetary motion. What they were to the material universe, inspired men and the God-born Saviour were to the spiritual universe.

A. P. Peabody, died March 10, 1893, aged 82.

The creation is the ceaseless converse of the Creator with the creature.

George Berkeley, born March 12, 1684.

MARCH 13.

Unless the people be intelligent and virtuous, our government is a farce. What folly, if, having committed sovereignty to the whole people, we take no pains to prepare them to discharge their duty, but surrender them to ignorance and passion! The facts of our condition render a vigorous and sustained effort for the diffusion of high intelligence necessary. The education of princes in other countries should be the education of the people in this.

Francis Wayland.

MARCH 14.

The power granted Congress to coin money is an authority to stamp metallic money, not for emitting paper promises to pay money. The probition upon the States against making anything but gold and silver a legal tender, is founded in virtue and honesty, and is as binding upon the federal government as upon the state governments. People were sick of paper money about the time that the Constitution was formed.

Thomas H. Benton, born March 14, 1782.

MARCH 15.

Industry is the natural way to wealth. Money is useful as it promoteth industry, but circulating without labor or industry is gaming. No man of sense and honesty but must see that it is folly for people to sit down to a gaming table and play off money one to another. The more methods there are for acquiring riches without industry or merit, the less there will be of either.

George Berkeley.

MARCH 16.

The advice nearest to my heart and dearest to my convictions is that the Union of the States be cherished and perpetuated. I have seen imported Africans just after their arrivals; their transformation from an almost brutal condition has been so great during my period of observation, that I could not set a limit to their further improvement.

James Madison.

Born March 16, 1751, died June 28, 1836.

MARCH 17.

All things of heavenly origin, like the sun, move westward. Rejoice, O venerable Rome! Though darkness overshadow thy seats, and thy mitred head descend to dust, thy spirit spreads toward a new world.

Westward the star of empire takes its way:
The four first acts already past,
A fifth shall close the drama with the day:
Time's noblest offspring is the last.

George Berkeley.

So clear a vision of what America would become, and the imagery and beauty with which the thought is expressed, render it one of the most striking passages in our language. *Daniel Webster*, July 4, 1851.

MARCH 18.

Let us advance the arts and works of peace, develop the resources of our land, build up its institutions, and see whether we may not perform something worthy to be remembered. Let us cultivate union and harmony. Let our object be our whole country, and by the blessing of God may that country become a vast and splendid monument, not of oppression and terror, but of Wisdom, of Peace, of Liberty, upon which the world may gaze with admiration for ever. *Daniel Webster.*

MARCH 19.

The religion of the Gospel is in all its parts natural religion, co-eternal with the mind of God, coeval with the souls of men,—its doctrines and principles not true and right because revealed, but revealed because essentially true and immutably right.

A. P. Peabody, born March 19, 1811.

Asked on the shores of Lake Bangweolo, Africa, "Why I had come so far?" I replied, We are all children of one Father, and I am anxious that we should know each other better. *David Livingstone*, born March 19, 1813.

MARCH 20

It is for us, the children of a pure civilization, the pioneers of a Christian future, to found a Capitol, whose corner-stone shall be justice, whose top-stone liberty, within whose Holy of Holies shall dwell One who is no respecter of persons. Crowding to the shelter of its stately arches, I see old and young, rich and poor, native and foreign, Pagan, Jew, Christian, black and white, in one glad harmonious procession.

Wendell Phillips, died Feb. 2, 1874, aged 73.

MARCH 21.

History for these thousand years has not been the history of kindness, but of selfishness. An acceptance of the sentiment of Love would bring the felon and the outcast to our side in tears. Let our affection flow out to our fellows; it would operate the greatest of revolutions. Let the amelioration in our laws of property proceed from the concession of the rich, not from the grasping of the poor. Let us begin by imparting. The equitable rule is that no one should take more than his share. Let man be a lover. Love would put a new face on this old world in which we dwell as pagans and enemies. It would warm the heart to see the diplomacy of statesmen, the impotence of armies and navies, superseded by this unarmed child. Love would accomplish that which force could never achieve.

R. W. Emerson.

MARCH 22.

Things change for the worse spontaneously, if not altered for the better designedly. *Francis Bacon.*

MARCH 23.

I often write chapters over and over again, beside innumerable corrections and interlinear additions. My aim has been to express clearly my meaning; this has been the motive-principle of all my corrections and re-writings. As to patterns for imitation, the only master of style I have had was Cicero. I owe a great deal to him, and as far as I know to no one else. His mastery of Latin is shown in his clearness. *John H. Newman.*

MARCH 24.

A comprehensive, world-embracing, truly Catholic Christianity, which knows what is essential to religion, and what is temporary and extraneous, may defy the world. Obstinate adherence to things irreconcilable with advancing knowledge, may repel how many I know not, how far I know still less. *H. H. Milman.*

MARCH 25.

"What shall we do?" Just as Jesus and John the Baptist told us. Give up everything we do not need, and adjust our lives to take as little as possible of labor and strength from others. We still consider men our menials, in spite of the fact that conscience tells us that all are equal. We obey unjust laws, we go to war and murder, we smother conscience by narcotics and luxuries, by music, art, theaters, smoke, alcohol. Nothing can save us from this inconsistency but the law of Jesus. *Tolstoy.*

MARCH 26.

This Christendom of ours still keeps alive at least the name of a lover of mankind. But one day all men will be lovers, and every calamity be dissolved in the universal sunshine. *R. W. Emerson.*

MARCH 27.

War with respect to its objects reverses all the rules of morality. It is a repeal of the principle of virtue; almost all the virtues are excluded; nearly all the vices are incorporated. The sword cuts asunder the bond of consanguinity which unites man to man. It is next to impossible to set limits to military license. When men pass from the dominion of reason to that of force, whatever restraints are laid upon the passions will be feeble. Though we applaud attempts to blend humanity with military operations, it is to be feared they will never coalesce. *Robert Hall.*

MARCH 28.

The kingdom of Christ is in the fullest sense free. It has no sacred days or seasons, no special sanctuaries, because every time and place alike are holy. Above all, it has no sacerdotal system. *J. B. Lightfoot.*

MARCH 29.

I believe Christianity to be divine, because I am conscious of its adaptation to my nature, of its having made me what I am morally and spiritually, and because in the history of the world it is the only cause of what has been best and noblest in humanity since the advent of Christ.

A. P. Peabody.

MARCH 30.

Christian Faith is a grand cathedral with pictured windows; without, you see no glory; within, every ray of light reveals a harmony of splendors.

Nathaniel Hawthorne.

MARCH 31.

What is the Church? All Christian people who believe in the Lord Jesus and try to please Him.

Who ought to be in the Church? All men. The Church is mankind knowing and fulfilling its destiny.

Creighton, Bp. of London, 1900.

APRIL 1.

Live while you live, the epicure would say,
And seize the pleasures of the present day;
Live while you live, the sacred preacher cries,
And give to God each moment as it flies.
Lord, in my view let both united be,
I live in pleasure while I live to Thee.

Philip Doddridge.

APRIL 2,

The establishment of Christianity, the reverence of nations, has thrown around the Cross an indubitable sanctity. No effort can dissipate the dignity which has gathered round it, dissevered from its coarse and humiliating associations. To us it is the symbol of an ancient and venerable religion. To the Jew and to the heathen it was the instrument of public execution Yet to the cross of Christ men turned. In an incredibly short space of time multitudes gave up the splendor, pride and power of paganism, to adore a being who was thus humiliated.

H. H. Milman.

APRIL 3.

Our New Englanders were good Christians, but loth to give the sign of the cross for being so They chose a better sign of it, by being themselves crucified unto the vanities of the world. That which made the cross disagreeable to them was its being the great idol of Popery, which is but revived Paganism. *Cotton Mather.*

APRIL 4.

A little sun, a little rain,
A soft wind blowing from the west,—
And woods and fields are sweet again,
And warmth within the mountain's breast.

So simple is the earth we tread,
So quick with life and love her frame;
Ten thousand years have dawned and fled,
And still her magic is the same.

Stopford A. Brooke.

APRIL 5.

Christ took on him our nature that he might be our example in the exercise of virtue, and be a visible instance of the reward of it; that we might see the beauty, honor, and benefit of that virtue which it is proper for human beings to practice, and be animated to seek the like glory and obtain the like reward.

Jonathan Edwards, 1703-1758.

APRIL 6.

The sole order of nobility which becomes a philosopher is the rank he holds in the estimation of his fellow-workers, the only competent judges. Newton and Cuvier lowered themselves when the one accepted an idle knighthood, and the other became a baron of the empire. The great men who went to their graves as Michael Faraday and George Grote understood the dignity of knowledge better when they declined such meretricious trappings.

Thomas H. Huxley.

APRIL 7.

Blame where you must, be candid where you can,
And be each critic the good-natured man.

How small of all that human hearts endure,
That part which laws or kings can cause or cure!
Still to ourselves in every place consigned,
Our own felicity we make or find.

Oliver Goldsmith, died April, 1774, aged 46.

I love to go in the capricious days
Of April and hunt violets, when the rain
Is in the blue cups trembling, and they nod
So gracefully to the kisses of the wind.

N. P. Willis

APRIL 8.

In the Commonwealth, I do not think it a mark of inconsistency to accommodate our measures, as we do the course we steer at sea, to the winds and storms of the political horizon. Men are not always bound to defend the same opinions, but only such as the circumstances of the country, the current of popular opinion, and the preservation of peace seem to render necessary.

Cicero, died B. C. 43.

APRIL 9.

Stern Daughter of the Voice of God!
O Duty! if that name thou love,
Who art a light to guide, a rod
To check the erring, and reprove :
Stern Lawgiver! yet thou dost wear
The Godhead's most benignant grace;
Nor know we anything so fair
As is the smile upon thy face:
Flowers laugh before thee on their beds,
And fragrance in thy footing treads;
Thou dost preserve the stars from wrong;
And the most ancient heavens, through
Thee, are fresh and strong.

William Wordsworth, born April 7, 1770.

APRIL 10.

To lay with one hand the power of the Government upon the property of the citizens, and with the other bestow it on favored individuals to aid private enterprises and build up private fortunes, is none the less robbery because it is done under the forms of law and taxation.

Samuel F. Miller, born April 5, 1811.

(A Constitutional jurist, rivalled only by John Marshall. *Geo. W. Curtis.*)

APRIL 11.

No man can be brave who considers pain the greatest evil; or temperate, who considers pleasure the highest good. *Cicero.*

Haste borders upon panic and timidity; slow movements are more akin to steady valor.

Tacitus, died *circe* 120.

A man's own observation, what he finds good of, and what he finds hurt of, is the best physic to preserve health.

Francis Bacon.

APRIL 12.

Give Pleasure's name to nought but what has passed
The authentic seal of Reason, and defies
The tooth of Time; when past, a pleasure still;
Dearer on trial, lovelier for its age,
And doubly to be prized, as it promotes
Our future, while it forms our present joy.

Edward Young, died April 12, 1765, aged 84.

APRIL 13.

The God who gave us life gave us liberty; the hand of force may destroy, but cannot disjoin them.

A wise and frugal government which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits, and shall not take from the month of labor the bread it has earned—this is the sum of good government, and this is necessary to close the circle of our felicities.

We are all republicans—we are federalists. If there be any who would wish to dissolve this Union or change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.

Thomas Jefferson, born April 13, 1743.

APRIL 14.

I have wished that I might do something to inaugurate faith in modern science, and that respect to which in the sublimity of its reasons it is entitled. Great will be the day when faith, laying hold of science, rising into intellectual majesty with it, is acknowledged in the sisterhood of a common purpose, and both set them in that final unity which represents the eternal headship of Christ. *Horace Bushnell*, born April 14, 1802.

APRIL 15.

The abolition of primogeniture removed the feudal distinctions which made one member of every family rich, and the rest poor. The restoration of the rights of conscience relieved the people from taxation for the support of a religion not theirs; for the Establishment was the religion of the rich.

The principle of spending money to be paid by posterity is but swindling posterity on a large scale.

Thomas Jefferson.

APRIL 16.

I shall be ready not only to be bound and banished, but to die in New England, for holy truths of God in Christ Jesus. Having made covenant of peaceable neighborhood with the sachems and nations round about, and having, of a sense of God's merciful providence to me in my distress, called the place Providence, I desired it might be for a shelter for persons distressed for conscience.

Roger Williams, died April, 1683, aged 84.

APRIL 17.

In this broad universe of God's wisdom and love not leashes to restrain us are neded, but wings to sustain our flight. Let bold but reverent thought go on, and probe creation's mysteries till Faith and Knowledge "make one music as before, but vaster."

John Fiske, 1842-1901.

APRIL 18.

Unless I shall be refuted and convinced by the Holy Scriptures, or by clear and evident arguments and reasons, I cannot and will not retract anything; since I believe neither the pope nor the councils alone, both having often erred and contradicted themselves; and since it is not safe to do anything against the conscience. Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me.

Martin Luther,
Before the Diet of Worms, April 18, 1521.

APRIL 19.

The thorns which I have reaped are of the tree
I planted; they have torn me, and I bleed:
I should have known what fruit would spring from such a seed.

George Gordon Byron.
Died April 19, 1824, aged 30.

APRIL 20.

By constitution man is, from center out, a religious being. Human nature has been made susceptible to divine influence, responsive to divine agency, capable of cooperating with God in history. The highest life possible for man is life under the inspiration of religious motives and aims. Apart from this inspiration, human life is abnormal, defective, sure to become degenerate. Through violation of natural and spiritual law human faculties become disordered, the higher faculties enfeebled.

William W. Adams.

APRIL 21.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Lo, the lilies of the field,
How their leaves instruction yield!
Hark to nature's lesson given
By the blessed birds of heaven!
Every bush and tufted tree
Warbles sweet philosophy:
Mortal, fly from doubt and sorrow;
God provideth for the morrow.

Reginald Heber, born April 21, 1783.

APRIL 22.

A garden is the purest of pleasures, the greatest refreshment to the spirits of man, without which buildings and palaces are gross works.

Francis Bacon.

Brevity is the soul of wit.

William Shakespeare, born April 23, 1564.

APRIL 23.

My heart leaps up when I behold
  A rainbow in the sky:
So was it when my life began;
So is it now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
  Or let me die!
The Child is father of the Man;
And I could wish my days to be
Bound each to each by natural piety.

William Wordsworth.

Died April 23, 1850, aged 80.

APRIL 24.

Pride is littleness. The man whose eye
Is ever on himself doth look on one,
The least of Nature's works, one who might move
The wise man to that scorn which wisdom holds
Unlawful, ever. O be wiser, Thou!
Instructed that true knowledge leads to love;
True dignity abides with him alone
Who, in the silent hour of inward thought,
Can still suspect, and still revere himself,
In lowliness of heart. *Wordsworth.*

APRIL 25.

The pulpit, in the sober use
Of its legitimate, peculiar powers,
Must stand acknowledged, while the world shall stand,
The most important, effectual guard,
Support, and ornament of virtue's cause.
There stands the messenger of truth;
By him the violated law speaks out its thunders;
And by him, in strains as sweet as angels use,
The Gospel whispers peace.

Religion, if in heavenly truths attired,
Needs only to be seen to be admired.

William Cowper, died April 25, 1800, aged 69.

APRIL 26.

We need not bid, for cloistered cell,
Our neighbor and our work farewell,
Nor strive to wind ourselves too high
For sinful man beneath the sky:

The trivial round, the common task,
Would furnish all we ought to ask;
Room to deny ourselves; a road
To bring us daily nearer God.

O naught but love and mercy wait
Through all my life on me;
And I within my Father's gate
For long bright years shall be.

John Keble, born April 25, 1792.

APRIL 27.

The Capitol of old Rome beamed with the lustre of conquest; yours (the Capitol of the U. S. at Washington) is bright with freedom. The old absorbed the world into its own glory; yours protects your own nation from being absorbed, even by itself. The old was awful with unrestricted power; yours is glorious for having restricted it. At the view of the old, nations trembled; at the view of yours, humanity hopes. While from the old a conquered world was ruled, you in yours provide for the common federative interests of a territory larger than that conquered world. There, sat men who boasted that their will was sovereign of the earth; here, sit men whose glory is to acknowledge the laws of nature and nature's God, and to do what their sovereign, the people, wills.

Louis Kossuth, born April 27, 1802.
(Address before members of Congress, 1852.)

APRIL 28.

The United States has tamed a savage continent, peopled a solitude, gathered untold wealth ,waxed potent; it remains for her to prove that the rule of the masses is consistent with the highest growth of the individual, that democracy can give the world a civilization and a manhood lofty and strong. *Francis Parkman.*

APRIL 29.

Crowds and centuries of books are only echoes and weakeners of the few great voices of Time.

Of immortality the soul when well employed is incurious. It is so well, it is sure it will be well. It asks no questions of the Supreme Power. Higher than the question of enduring is the question of deserving. It is higher to confide that if better we should live, we shall live, than to have lease of centuries and milleniums. Our dissatisfaction with every other solution is the blazing evidence of our immortality.

R. W. Emerson, died April 27, 1882, aged 79.

APRIL 30.

Early habits of self-restraint, total abstinence from all excess, diligence in business, attention to our duties, and tranquillity of mind, would do more to abate disease than all physicians, to feed the hungry and clothe the naked than all Poor Laws and charitable institutions.

Thomas Guthrie, died Feb. 24, 1873, aged 70.

MAY 1.

It must be so—Plato, thou reasonest well—
Else whence this pleasing hope, this fond desire,
This longing after immortality?
Or whence this secret dread and inward horror
Of falling into nought? Why shrinks the soul
Back on herself, and startles at destruction?
'Tis the Divinity that stirs within us;
'Tis Heaven itself that points out an hereafter,
And intimates Eternity to man.

Joseph Addison, born May 1, 1672.

MAY 2.

Evedy other quality is subordinate to wisdom, as the mason who lays the brick and stones in a building is subordinate to the architect who drew the plan and superintends the work. There is no faculty we exert, no skill we apply, but requires a superintending hand, and looks to some higher principle, as a maid to her mistress, for direction; and this universal superintendent is Wisdom. Hence Wisdom is to be considered as the top and summit of perfection. *Robert Hall*, born May 2, 1764.

MAY 3.

What is mind? No matter. What is matter? Never mind.
What is soul? It is immaterial.

Thomas Hood, died May 3, 1845, aged 47.

Lilies of a day are fair and sweet in May;
Although they fall and die that night,
They are plants and flowers of light.
In small proportions we just beauties see,
And in short measure life may perfect be.

MAY 4.

My theory of life is no indolence theory. I have worked hard and mean to work hard on things which have a worthy end and use. What I protest against is asceticism, blindness to what is beautiful and pleasurable, a preference for the disagreeable, above all, a parting of life into this element and that, and a contempt of half the life we have to live as if it hindered us from living the other half. Mind, soul, and body, I would harmoniously develop together—neither intellectualism, nor spiritualism, nor sensualism, but a broad humanity.

John Richard Green, died March 9, 1883, aged 46.

MAY 5.

Napoleon (died May 5, 1821) was a great legislator. Few enactments have had a more potent effect in moulding social and political life than the provision of the Code for the compulsory division of property. It checks population, enforces equality, constitutes the most powerful and conservative of landed interests.

Rosebery, born Sept. 19, 1847.

MAY 6.

If there's a Power above us,
And that there is, all nature cries aloud
Through all her works, He must delight in virtue.

The soul, secured in her existence, smiles
At the drawn dagger, and defies its point.
The stars shall fade away, the sun himself
Grow dim with age, and nature sink in years;
But thou shalt flourish in immortal youth,
Unhurt amidst the wars of elements,
The wrecks of matter, and the crush of worlds.

Joseph Addison.

MAY 7.

This world is no blot for us,
Nor blank; it means intensely, and means good.
To find its meaning is my meat and drink.

Robert Browning, born May 7, 1812.

Browning's temper is that of a philosopher rather than poet. His versification and grammar are hard. He interprets human nature in its sadness as well as grotesqueness. With less of beauty in his writings than in other poets, there is more to be learnt from him. He said he wished to put as much thought as possible into his poetry, that Sophocles and other poets are full of difficulty. His reputation would have stood higher if he had published nothing during his last twenty years.

Benjamin Jowett, 1817-1898.

MAY 8.

There is no man who is leading a good life who is far from the kingdom of heaven. We must allow for differences of character, for dislike of forms, for reaction against early education, and not demand of every one that they conform to the same pattern. He who has the love of God and man in his soul has the root of the matter in him; he who has any true love of man is not far from the love of God.

B. Jowett.

MAY 9.

The history of the first three centuries is a history of a contest. The Church and the Empire started side by side. They met in the market, in the house, in the school, in the institutions of government. In each Christianity triumphed, asserting its power over common life, over thought, over civil organization. These victories contain the promise of all that later ages have to reap. The victory of common life was first. It was wrought out in silence, in patience, in nameless agonies. It was the victory of the soldiers, not of the captains of Christ's army.

Brooke Foss Westcott.

MAY 10.

That America marks the highest level, not only of material well-being, but of intelligence and happiness, which the race has yet attained, will be the judgment of those who look not at the favored few, for whose benefit the world seems hitherto to have framed its institutions, but at the whole body of the people.

James Bryce, born May 10, 1838.

MAY 11.

Those despised as ignorant, and set down as fools, no sooner commit themselves to the teachings of Jesus, than far from defiling themselves in shameless passion, they, in many cases, keep themselves, like priests for whom such pleasures have no charm, in act and thought in a state of purity. They do so for no human honors, for no fee or reward, from no motive of vain glory, but as they choose to retain God in their knowledge, they are preserved in a spirit well-pleasing to Him in the discharge of every duty, being filled with all goodness. *Origen*, 185—254.

MAY 12.

The highest honor of any nation is to preserve peace, even under provocations which might justify war; the deepest disgrace is to plunge into war under circumstances which leave the honorable alternative of peace.

Robert C. Winthrop, born May 12, 1809.

MAY 13.

The greater message which Christ came into the world to declare was the love of God to man. He told men that their Father in heaven was more ready to hear than they were to ask; that He never cast out any who came, only they must renounce their sins; they could not be the friends of God and hate their brethren; they could not worship God in spirit and truth when they sought to be observed of men; they could not see God when their minds were darkened with impurity. But let them break through the hardness of heart which divided them from God, the veil of passion which hid Him from them, let them receive the word of Christ, and they too would become sons of God. They must forgive if they would be forgiven, do as they would be done by. So he sought to bring men back to that true image of humanity by which he was to reconcile them with one another and with God. This is the message of Christ to all mankind. *B. Jowett.*

MAY 14.

Older than the New Testament is that custom of public worship on Sundays, which after the example of Christ and Paul we continue. For more than eighteen hundred years there has never been a Sunday in which Christians have not met together; sometimes when the doors were shut for fear of the Jews, sometimes in edifices filled with worshippers. *B. Jowett.*

MAY 15.

Columbia! Columbia! to glory arise,
The queen of the world, and the child of the skies;
Let the crimes of the east ne'er crimson thy name,
Be freedom and science and virtue thy fame,
While the ensigns of union, in triumph unfurled,
Hush the tumult of war, and give peace to the world.

Timothy Dwight, born May 14, 1752.

MAY 16.

No government ever did for a long period act out all the virtue of its original constitution. Hence every nation must perpetually renew its constitution, or perish. It is a great excellence of our system that sovereignty resides not in Congress and the President, nor in the governments of the States, but in the people of the United States. If the sovereign be just and uncorrupted, the government can be brought back from any aberration, and the constitution, if imperfect, can be amended. This idea of the sovereignty of the people over their government glimmers in the British system, while it fills our own with a broad and glowing light

William H. Seward, born May 16, 1801.

MAY 17.

We know the vast resources of the continent, the goodwill that is in the people, their conviction of the advantages of freedom, social equality, education, religious culture, and their determination to penetrate every square mile of the country with American civilization.

R. W. Emerson.

MAY 18.

All knowledge from reason is as really from God as revelation is.

To preside and govern, from the constitution of man, belongs to the conscience. Had it strength as it has right, had it power as it has authority, it would absolutely govern the world.

Love and charity is plainly the thing in which our Saviour hath placed his religion; in which, therefore, as we have any pretense to the name of Christians, we must place ours. He hath enjoined it upon us by way of command, and by his example, having undertaken the work of our salvation out of pure love and good will to mankind.

Joseph Butler, born May 12, 1692.

MAY 19.

O God of the spirits of all flesh, in whose embrace all creatures live, in whatever world or condition they be, we beseech Thee for him whose dwelling-place Thou knowest. Vouchsafe him light and rest, peace and refreshment, joy and consolation, in Paradise, in the companionship of saints, in the presence of Christ, in the ample folds of thy love.

William E. Gladstone, died May 19, 1898, aged 87.

MAY 20.

Sometime before his death (May 20, 1506), Columbus was preparing a campaign for the rescue of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem from the infidel. He did not know that while the mission of the Crusades was a fruitless task, the discovery of America was the salvation of the world. The tomb of the Saviour was an empty vault, precious only for its memories of the supreme tragedy of the centuries; but the new continent was to be home and temple of the living God. *Chauncey M. Depew.*

MAY 21.

Honor and shame from no condition rise;
Act well your part—there all the honor lies.
Know then this truth, enough for man to know,
Virtue alone is happiness below,
What nothing earthly gives, or can destroy,
The soul's calm sunshine and the heartfelt joy;
Never elated, while one man's opprest,
Never dejected, while another's blest.
Reason's whole pleasure, all the joys of sense,
Lie in three words, Health, Peace, and Competence:
But Health consists with temperance alone,
And Peace, O Virtue, Peace is all thine own.

Alexander Pope, born May 21, 1688.

MAY 22.

I inveigh against the increase of luxuries, and here I expect the shout of modern politicians against me. It has been the fashion to consider luxury as one of the great national advantages, and the wisdom of antiquity in that particular as erroneous. Still I must remain a profound ancient on that head, and continue to think those luxuries prejudicial by which so many vices are introduced.

Oliver Goldsmith.

MAY 23.

The Holy Spirit makes Christ the inspiration, and life, and genius of the Church. He is re-incarnated, as it were, in all believers from age to age, from country to country. Faith rests only on and in God as the Father of all spirits. So Jesus explained it, and realized it in his own person. To be identical with the religion of Jesus, the Church need no more reproduce the exact form of the Galilean Gospel than a man of fifty need resemble a new-born child. To assure ourselves of the identity of an individual, we do not try to squeeze him into his cradle. Development is necessary if religion is to survive. *Loisy.*

MAY 24.

Stay at home, my heart, and rest;
The bird is safest in its nest;
For all that flutter their wings and fly,
A hawk is hovering in the sky;
To stay at home is best.

H. W. Longfellow.

MAY 25.

The planting of America is the culmination of humanity. We began well; no inquisition, no kings, no nobles, no dominant church. We are a nation of individuals, have a highly intellectual organization, can see moral distinctions—in this is our hope. Let the passion for America cast out the passion for Europe. This country is the great charity of God to the human race.

R. W. Emerson, born May 25, 1802.

MAY 26.

A man of liberal attainments addicted himself to the Gospel, traveling from country to country, enduring every species of hardship, encountering every extremity of danger, assaulted by the populace, punished by the magistrates, scourged, beat, stoned, left for dead, expecting, wherever he came, a renewal of the same treatment, yet when driven from one city preaching in the next, spending his whole time in the employment, sacrificing to it his ease, his safety, persisting in the course to old age, unaltered by the experience of perverseness, ingratitude, prejudice, desertion, unsubdued by anxiety, want, labor, persecutions, unwearied by long confinement, undismayed by the prospect of death. Such was Paul.

William Paley, died May 25, 1805, aged 62.

MAY 27.

I find the Greek language most important for the study of language, the cultivation of taste, and for present profit and delight. Some knowledge of it is essential to a thorough understanding of our English tongue. In the ministry, I consider it essential to read the New Testament in the language in which it was written. I am a poor Greek scholar, but do not know of any possession I would take in exchange for such Greek as I know.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me,
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free.
While God is marching on.

Julia Ward Howe, born May 27, 1819.

MAY 28.

Thou art, O God, the life and light
Of all this wondrous world we see;
Its glow by day, its smile by night,
Are but reflections caught from Thee:
Where'er we turn thy glories shine,
And all things fair and bright are thine.

Thomas Moore, born May 28, 1779.

MAY 29

From wholesome labor come,
The good man reaches home,
Meets at the door the best of human blisses,
His chaste wife's welcome and dear children's kisses.
Virgil. B. C. 70-19.

MAY 30.

With notes of bugle-song and drum,
With flying flags and sweet mayflowers,
And grateful hearts, again we come
To deck these soldier-graves of ours.
S. H. M. Byers.

On fame's eternal camping ground,
Their silent tents are spread,
And glory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.
Theodore O'Hara.

MAY 31.

Desertion of duty is the unpardonable sin.
Horace Mann, born May 4, 1796.

JUNE 1.

Heaven now is given away,
And God is here each day;
He sets no price on the lavish summer;
June is here for the poorest comer.
James R. Lowell, born Feb. 22, 1819.

These, as they change, Almighty Father, these
Are but the varied God. The rolling year
Is full of Thee. Forth in the pleasing Spring
Thy beauty walks, thy tenderness and love;
Wide flush the fields; the softening air is balm;
And every sense, and every heart is joy.
Then comes thy glory in the Summer months,
With light and heat refulgent. Then thy sun
Shoots full perfection through the swelling year.
James Thomson, 1700-1748.

JUNE 2.

I say to thee, Do thou repeat
To the first man thou mayest meet,
In lane, highway, or open street,
That he, and we, and all men move
Under a canopy of Love;
As broad as the blue sky above.
Richard C. Trench, 1807-1886.

JUNE 3.

The Son of God reiteratively taught his disciples, "Call no man master on earth, for One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren." The command emancipates me from all human mastership. I am free of all men, of all orders or organizations, of all hierarchies. By so much the more am I under law to God, and I am bound to all his children in equal brotherhood. The command develops into Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, breathing upon the church and the world a higher life, a holier civilization. *Truman M. Post*, born June 3, 1810.

JUNE 4.

Freedom is liable to abuse, but under the Divine Spirit tends to self-cure. The wounded oak by the power of life heals itself; the mutilated Parthenon goes on to dilapidation. Freedom is culture, and the free soul in immediate vision of God must grow into the likeness of the Ineffably Beautiful. *T. M. Post.*

JUNE 5.

How lovely is domestic happiness,
Where mind on mind and heart on heart repose
Undoubting; and the friends, whom Providence
Has brought together, sharing each with each
Their hopes, their joys, their cares, appear to live
One common life, and breathe one common will!
So beautiful is this; and where the love
Of God is added to this love of man,
Somewhat of heaven itself to earth descends.
For what is heaven, but one immortal home,
Where all are happy, loving and beloved?

Henry F. Lyte, born June 1, 1793.

JUNE 6.

Freedom and Faith are the tutelar forces of modern civilization. Of Protestantism the life-principle is spiritual liberty. All violations of this principle, calling themselves by its name, are abuses and misnomers. You may as well require me to see without my own eyes, or to hear without my own ears, as to believe without my own judgment.

T. M. Post.

JUNE 7.

Whose soul takes Untruth for its bride,
And sets himself on Evil's side,
Chooses the Black, and sure it is
His path leads down to the abyss;
But he who doth his nature feed
With stedfastness and loyal deed,
Lies open to the heavenly light,
And takes his portion with the White.

Wolfram von Eschenbach.

Of all bestialities that is the most vile and foolish and hurtful which believes there is no other life after this.

Dante, 1265-1321.

Hell's mouth yawns before the feet of every man everywhere who goeth about to do evil. Dante could not find images loathsome enough to express the deformity wrought by sin. *J. R. Lowell.*

JUNE 8.

In the parables of Jesus the laws of nature are shown to be the analogues of the laws of the soul. The pure in heart see God by the condition of their being. Goodness is heaven, here and hereafter. Sin is hell, in this and in all worlds. Thus is Jesus the atonement, who unites law and love, faith and reason, the natural and supernatural, sinful and finite man with the holy and infinite God. Around this divinely human character, Son of God and Son of Man, Christians must one day unite. And then his sublime prayer will be fulfilled, "That they all may be one, as Thou, Father, art in me, and I in Thee."

James Freeman Clarke, died June 8, 1888, aged 78.

JUNE 9.

Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home;
A charm from the skies seems to hallow us there,
Which go through the world, you'll not meet with elsewhere.
Home! Home! Sweet Home! There's no place like Home.
John Howard Payne, born June 9, 1792.

I commit my soul to the mercy of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and I exhort my children to guids themselves by the teachings of the New Testament.
Charles Dickens, died June 9, 1870.

JUNE 10.

In South America there is room for five hundred million more people. Some day it will have that many, and all will acknowledge the Government at Washington. We in England will not grudge you this added power. With the completion of the canal across the Isthmus, you must have control of the Egypt of the new world.

Simple gifts are given freely in the house where good men dwell,
Greeting fair, and room to rest in; fire and water from the well.
Pity them that crave thy pity; who art thou to stint thy hoard,
When the holy moon shines equal on the leper and the lord? *Edwin Arnold,* born June 10, 1832.

JUNE 11.

O Love Divine! uplift, ennoble, recreate me,
Redeem me from my fond self-love,
And guide me in thy saving school,
By thy loving rule.

Frederic D. Huntington, 1819-1904.

Vice in general consists in having an unreasonable and too great regard to self in comparison of others.

Joseph Butler.

JUNE 12.

Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever;
Do noble things, not dream them all day long;
And so make life, death, and that vast forever,
One grand, sweet song.

Charles Kingsley, born June 12, 1819.

(Thomas Arnold, died June 12, 1842)

O strong soul, by what shore
Tarriest thou now? For that force,
Surely, has not been left vain!
Somewhere, surely, afar,
In the sounding labor-house vast
Of being, is practised that strength,
Zealous, beneficent, firm.
And through thee I believe
In the noble and great who are gone;
Pure souls honored and blest
By former ages, friends of mankind.

Matthew Arnold, 1822-1888.

JUNE 13.

Where can we find a name so holy that we may surrender our whole souls to it, before which obedience, reverence, humility, adoration, may all be duly rendered? There is one name alone in heaven and earth—not truth, not justice, not benevolence, not Christ's mother, not his holiest servants, not his sacraments, not the church, but Jesus Christ Himself only. Newman and his party put Christ's church and sacraments and ministers in the place of Christ.

I am called a no-Church man, because I respect not the idol which has slipped into God's place, that is, the Priesthood, which does not seem to me to be false only in its excess, but altogether false from the beginning, the master falsehood, still spared as a harmless and venerable error, if not as a sacred truth.

Thomas Arnold, born June 13, 1795.

JUNE 14.

My good health is summed up in one word, Moderation. I am a moderate eater and drinker, moderate in my work, as well as in my pleasure, and I believe the best way to preserve the mental and physical faculties is to keep them employed.

W. C. Bryant, died June 12, 1878, aged 84.

Bryant had the wisdom of age in his youth, and the fire of youth in his age.

Mark Hopkins, died June 17, 1887, aged 85.

JUNE 15.

The American government is the only permanent republic which ever based itself upon the principles laid down by Jesus Christ of the brotherhood of man and the rights of men on the simple ground of manhood. This was the leading idea of the men who founded our government. The Declaration of Independence crystalized a religious teaching within a political act. The Constitution still further elaborates these principles.

Harriet Beecher Stowe, born June 15, 1811.

JUNE 16.

To be righteous implies the love of righteousness; to be benevolent, the love of benevolence; to be good, the love of goodness; and the love of God is the love of perfect goodness contemplated in a being or person. Thus morality and religion, virtue and piety, will at last coincide, run up into one and the same point, and love be in all senses the end of the commandment.

O Almighty God, inspire us with this divine principle; kill in us all seeds of envy and ill-will; help us, by cultivating within ourselves the love of our neighbor, to improve in the love of Thee. Thou hast placed us in various kindreds, friendships, and relations, as the school of discipline for our affections. Help us by the exercise of them to improve to perfection; till all partial affection be lost in that entire universal one, and Thou, O God, shalt be all in all.

Joseph Butler, died June 16, 1752, aged 60.

JUNE 17.

Though always in haste, I am never in a hurry. I fret at nothing. I have kept my accounts exactly for upwards of seventy-six years. I save all I can, and give all I can.

John Wesley, born June 17, 1703.

JUNE 18

In the Catholic service-book the lessons are in general shorter than in ours. They aim at being complete in themselves, and at producing one distinct impression, which is the right aim for lessons. Chapters are broken up, verses left out, and things naturally related brought together, to produce a clearer impression. The unknown arranger of these old lessons followed the instinct of a true critic, love for what is clear and impressive. He is an instance of the truth that in many cases Catholics are less superstitious in dealing with the Bible than Protestants.

Matthew Arnold.

JUNE 19.

Nature is an infinite sphere; the center is everywhere, the circumference nowhere. The whole visible world is but an imperceptible point in the ample bosom of nature.

The secrets of nature are concealed. Time reveals them from age to age. In this way we can embrace new opinions, without undervaluing the ancients; the knowledge they have given us, has served as a stepping-stone to our acquisitions. The cells of bees were as well proportioned a thousand years ago as at the present time, and each bee forms the hexagon as exactly the first time as the last. Not so with man. He gains knowledge as he advances in years; he takes advantage not only of his own experience, but of that of his predecessors.

Blaise Pascal, born June 19, 1623.

JUNE 20.

When faith and patience, hope and love,
Have made us meet for heaven above,
How blest the privilege to rise,
Snatched in a moment to the skies!
Unconscious to resign our breath,
Nor taste the bitterness of death.

Jeremy Belknap, died suddenly, June 20, 1798, aged 54.

JUNE 21.

Happiness is neither within us, nor without us; it is the union of our souls with God.

It is superstition to repose confidence in forms and ceremonies; not to submit to them is pride.

Though we should be mistaken in the belief that the Christian Religion is true, we should lose little by it; but if it be true, how dreadful to be mistaken in believing it false.

Asked if I repented of having written the Provincial Letters, I answered, That if I had to do it again, I would write them yet more strongly. If condemned at Rome, that which I condemn in them, is condemned in heaven.

The Inquisition and the Society of Jesuits are the two scourges of the truth. *Blaise Pascal.*

JUNE 22.

Man was made to grow, not stop:
The help he needed once,
The ladder on which he rose,
He needs no more.
Let him rise from each new height
To higher things.

Robert Browning.

JUNE 23.

He who fixed immoveably the frame
Of the round world hath built, by laws as strong,
The towers of Righteousness.

William Wordsworth.

JUNE 24.

The American people, by virtue of their liberty, intelligence, and civil and religious polity, are a nation loving law better than any other nation on earth. It is the glory of our institutions that it makes the people the fountain of the law. Nowhere else is there a disposition so universal to observe that which is found to be just. We are not a warlike people, although capable of war on a just occasion. It is not to our taste. It is not in consonance with our polity, the current of our thoughts, or the occupation of our minds.

The sun does not shine for a few trees and flowers, but for the whole world's joy, and so God sits effulgent in heaven, not for a favored few, but for the universe of life, and there is no creature so low that it may not look up and say, "My Father! Thou art mine."

Henry Ward Beecher, born June 24, 1813.

JUNE 25.

The overthrow of Satan is not yet completed, nor was designed to he till the end of the world. Christ expects his followers to be tried like himself, waging the same war that he did against the same enemy. One is possessed by the devil, when he rebels against God by breaking his commandments, especially when he falls into those sins which characterize the Tempter, such as envy, hatred, malice, and lying, of which he is described as "the father."

Richard Whately.

JUNE 26.

Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve,
And press with vigor on!
A heavenly race demands thy zeal,
And an immortal crown.

How gentle God's commands!
How kind his precepts are!
Come, cast your burdens on the Lord,
And trust his constant care.

Philip Doddridge, born June 26, 1702.

JUNE 27.

Partiality to ourselves is dishonesty. For a man to judge that to be the equitable, right part for him, which he would see to be harsh, unjust, oppressive in another, is plain vice, and can proceed only from great unfairness of mind.

Mankind hath the rule of right within himself. Your obligation to obey this law, is its being the law of your nature. Conscience carries its own authority, that it is our natural guide, assigned to us by the Author of our nature.

Joseph Butler.

JUNE 28.

Time was when I believed that wrong
In others to detect,
Was part of genius, and a gift
To cherish, not reject:
Now better taught by Thee, O Lord,
Make me all light within,
Self-hating and compassionate,
And blind to others' sin,

F. W. Faber, born June 28, 1814.

JUNE 29.

Theology is not a closed and completed science, but a work for long generations of workmen. It is never other than tentative. No one knows better than the writer that his work ("Religions of Authority and the Religion of the Spirit") is only a preliminary essay. If he binds up his sheaf, it is only that he may show the fertility of the field, and attract new laborers to it abler than himself. Never does he shut his eyes to the fact that his sheaf, so painfully and perhaps prematurely bound, must be unbound again, to receive ears grown at an earlier day which he ought not to have overlooked, and ears of a new harvest not yet come to maturity.

Auguste Sabatier, died Ap. 12, 1901.

JUNE 30.

Education is the passage from faith in authority to personal conviction of truths clearly recognized.

The individual who exploits or destroys the social bond is like a child who to warm himself sets fire to the house of his fathers. The society which sacrifices the rights, the education, and the advancement of the individual to its own selfish advantage, is like a mother who devours her children.

Moral forces are better than legal forces. Virtue is better than laws of prohibition. My property will be better guarded if I live among honest people, than by the police if I live among thieves. *A. Sabatier.*

JULY 1.

Abhor luxury with all your soul. Beneath her fair garments lies a loathsome body and the claws of a beast; but under the homely robes of a simple and pure life, beauty breathes in the very body, and the heart throbs with everlasting health. *Stopford A. Brooke.*

JULY 2.

Burn me or not burn me, I am fixt:
It is but a communion, not a mass,
A holy supper, not a sacrifice;
No man can make his Maker.
O higher, holier, earlier, purer church,
I have found thee, and not leave thee any more.
As for the Pope I count him Antichrist,
With all his devil's doctrines; and refuse,
Reject him, and abhor him.

Thomas Cranmer.

Born July 2, 1489, burnt at the stake March 21, 1556.

JULY 3.

Liberty, law, and public power are the elements of social life. Law and liberty without power are anarchy; law and force without liberty make a despotism; force alone is barbarism; liberty and law, joined with force, make the Republic, the only good civil constitution.

Immanuel Kant, 1724-1804.

America! half-brother of the world.

Philip James Bailey.

JULY 4.

'Tis freedom fires us all, and strengthens each brave son,
From him who guides the plough to godlike Washington.
No pent up Utica contracts our powers,
But the whole boundless continent is ours.

Jonathan M. Sewall, 1749-1808.

She that lifts up the manhood of the poor,
She of the open soul and open door,
With room about her hearth for all;
The mighty mother of a mighty brood,
Blessed in all tongues, and dear to every blood,
The beautiful, the strong, and best of all, the good.

J. R. Lowell.

JULY 5.

"History is the light of truth," says Cicero; a noble expression, which reflects honor on the pure and upright mind of its author. On the clearness and steadiness of this light, depends its value in guiding us through the obscure and difficult passages of human life. Tacitus has remarked that it is the office of the historian to take care that virtue be not passed over in silence, but so to represent things, that men may fear to do evil, from dread of the shame which may await them in posterity. A love of history is inseparable from a regard for ourselves. We feel great pleasure in reading histories which present examples of what ennobles and exalts the human character.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, born July 4, 1804.

JULY 6.

Liberty that is partial, that does not assert herself for all, is suicidal. To be immortal, Liberty must be universal.

T. M. Post.

JULY 7.

Great minds, and perhaps great minds only, understand the exquisite truth, that no man stands in another's way in the road to honor, that the world is wide enough for the virtues and talents of all.

Joseph Story, 1779-1845.

Content thyself to be obscurely good,
When vice prevails, and impious men bear sway,
The post of honor is a private station.

Joseph Addison.

JULY 8.

The business of our redemption is to rub over the defaced copy of the creation, reprint God's image upon the soul, and set forth nature in a second and fairer edition.

Robert South, died July 8, 1716, aged 83.

JULY 9.

Look through the whole of life. The strongest moral obligations were never the result of our option. The Author of our being is the Author of our place in the order of existence; and having disposed and marshalled us by a divine tactic, not according to our will, but according to his, He has, in and by that disposition, subjected us to act the part which belongs to the place assigned us. The place of every man determins his duty. It is not right to turn duties into doubts. They are to govern our conduct, not exercise our ingenuity. Our opinion about them ought not to be in a state of fluctuation, but steady, sure, and resolved.

Edmund Burke, died July 9, 1797, aged 67.

JULY 10.

The longer on the earth we live,
And weigh the various qualities of men,
The more we feel the high stern-featured beauty
Of plain devotedness to duty.

J. R. Lowell.

JULY 11.

It has been the custom in Europe among the champions of monarchy, to foretell the downfall of our political institutions, the end of our national existence. We have outlived these predictions. The extent of our territory, the increase of population, the multiplication of our States, have added to our political stability. We have solved the problem whether a people are capable of self-government, and have proved that a government resting upon the assent, co-operation, and responsibility of an intelligent people, is the most stable and beneficent yet devised by man.

Nathaniel Hawthorne.

JULY 12.

In the books of the Bible are some disagreements in chronology and confusion of numbers. To waste time on these questions is more suited to an idle than to a studious man. Paul's speaking against genealogies and Jewish fables seems to forbid questions of this kind.

Jerome, 342-420.

JULY 13.

The opening up of the New World has been called the greatest event in history. So perhaps it was; but to Spain it was the greatest curse. Before that time her people were tilling the soil, building up manufactures, spreading their commerce, laying foundations of substantial and enduring prosperity. The wealth of Mexico and Peru changed them into a race of adventurers and robbers.

Douglas Campbell, born July 13, 1840.

JULY 14.

The gods are just,
And of our pleasant vices make instruments
To scourge us. *Shakespeare.*

JULY 15.

Repentance is heart sorrow, and a clean life;
Nothing else can save from wrath and perdition.

Shakespeare.

The preaching of the Apostles was the voice of their Divine Master prolonged in its majestic simplicity. For beauty, plainness, the words of Jesus are a model to preachers, as his life is their example.

Henry E. Manning, born July 15, 1808.

JULY 16.

To place the spirit above the letter, the principle above the rule, was the aim of Christ, and the cause of the dislike he met with. This affords an answer to the question whether it be not dangerous to draw a parallel between his office and ours. I reply that except in fellowship and oneness with that life, and parallel feelings and struggles, I do not see how life would be tolerable. He was Humanity, and in him alone my humanity becomes intelligible.

F. W. Robertson.

L. of C.

JULY 17.

The world is full of books, but multitudes are so ill written, they were never worth reading; and thousands more are worth nothing when the occasion is past for which they were written. Your business in reading is to improve your knowledge. Deal freely with every author you read, and yield your assent only to evidence and just reasoning.

Seize upon truth where'er 'tis found,
Among your friends, among your foes,
On Christian or on heathen ground;
The flower's divine where'er it grows;
Neglect the prickles, and assume the rose.

Isaac Watts, born July 17, 1674.

JULY 18.

The Christian church has not yet presented its perfect aspect to the world; the belief of each successive age of Christendom has varied from the belief of its predecessor; each successive form of theology is but approximation to truth, not the whole truth; it is the glory of the church to be always advancing; there still remains a higher Christianity.

Arthur P. Stanley, died July 18, 1881, aged 66.

JULY 19.

An epoch was at hand, a new hero, unlike any character Jew or Greek had expected. What was that new birth of time? An innocent Child, a humble, inquiring Boy, a Man who knew what was in man, full of sorrow, full of joy, gracious to the weak, stern to the insincere, who went about doing good, who spake as never man spake, in whose transcendent goodness and truthfulness there was a new image of the Divine nature, a new idea of human destiny, a fulfilment the reverse of that which was expected, Israelite, Oriental by race, Greek in the wide penetration of his sympathy, Roman in the majesty of his authority.

A. P. Stanley.

JULY 20.

The Lord is come! In every heart,
Where truth and mercy claim a part;
In every land where right is might,
And deeds of darkness shun the light;
In every church, where faith and love
Lift up the thoughts to things above;
In every holy, happy home,
We bless Thee, Lord, that Thou hast come.

A. P. Stanley.

JULY 21.

I charge you before God that you follow me no further than you have seen me follow the Lord Jesus Christ. If God reveal anything to you by any other instrument of his, be as ready to receive it as ever you were to receive any truth by my ministry; for I am confident the Lord has more truth to break forth out of his word. I cannot sufficiently bewail the condition of the Reformed Churches, who are come to a period in religion. The Lutherans cannot go beyond what Luther saw, and the Calvinists stick where Calvin left them. Remember, It is an article of your Church-covenant that you be ready to receive whatever truth shall be made known to you.

John Robinson,

upon the embarcation of the Pilgrim Fathers for America, July 21, 1620.

JULY 22.

The learned, accomplished, unassuming, and inoffensive Robinson.

We have no evidence that our New England ancestors would have emigrated from their native country, become wanderers in Europe, and undertaken a colony here, merely from dislike of the political systems of Europe. They fled from the Hierarchy, and the laws which enforced conformity to the Church Establishment.

Daniel Webster.

JULY 23.

Let us not forget the religious character of our origin. Our fathers were brought here by their high veneration for the Christian Religion. They journeyed by its light, and labored in its hope. They sought to incorporate its principles with the elements of their society, and to diffuse its influence through all their institutions, civil, political, or literary. Let us cherish these sentiments, and extend this influence still more widely; in the full conviction, that that is the happiest society, which partakes in the highest degree of the mild and peaceable spirit of Christianity.

Daniel Webster.

JULY 24.

The Puritans flying from the Marian persecution to Geneva found there a commonwealth without a king and a church without a bishop. *Rufus Choate,* 1799-1859.

And still their spirit, in their sons, with freedom walks abroad;
The Bible is our only creed; our only monarch, God;
The hand is raised, the word is spoke, the solemn pledge is given,
And boldly on our banner floats, in the free air of heaven,
The motto of our sainted sires,—and loud we'll make it ring,—
"A church without a bishop, and a state without a king."

Charles Hall.

JULY 25.

Poetry has been to me its own exceeding great reward. It has soothed my afflictions; multiplied and refined my enjoyments; endeared solitude, and given me the habit of wishing to discover the Good and the Beautiful in all that surrounds me.

Samuel T. Coleridge, died July 25, 1834, aged 62.

JULY 26.

The life, character, and teachings of Jesus, his insight of human nature, his conception of the kingdom of heaven, his foresight of its destiny, give him a perpetually increasing influence over human society in cultivated ages. Faith in that Christ will produce reformation of character and purity of life. The multitudes who adopt it will become a world-wide fraternity, impelled by that philanthropy which was characteristic of his career, to imitate him. This is to be the church of the future.

Julian M. Sturtevant, born July 26, 1805.

JULY 27.

Neander calls the Sermon on the Mount "the Magna Charta of the Kingdom of God." It is a fine phrase, and in one sense completely true. But the idea of God which fills the discourse is not of King, but of Father. The kingdom was originally a family. It belonged to the king, as the family belongs to the father. The noblest heathen felt this; and Zeus is king or father of gods and men. But the words tended to drift apart. Lordship and command belonged to kingship; love and care to fatherhood. The passing over of kingship into fatherhood is what gives the Sermon on the Mount its everlasting value. This is the key to the Sermon. *Phillips Brooks.*

JULY 28.

Be noble! and the nobleness that lies
In other men, sleeping, but never dead,
Will rise in majesty to meet thine own.
J. R. Lowell.

A Japanese called Phillips Brooks "The Great Buddha."

JULY 29.

It is not necessary that God should speak in order to disclose the signs of his will. We may discern them in the tendency of events. The progressive development of social equality is the past and future of history, and has the character of a divine decree. To attempt to check democracy is in this case to resist the will of God.

Alexis De Tocqueville, born July 29, 1805.

JULY 30.

For who, to dumb forgetfulness a prey,
This pleasing anxious being e'er resigned,
Left the warn precincts of the cheerful day,
Nor cast one longing, lingering look behind?

Thomas Gray, died July 30, 1771, aged 55.

JULY 31.

Men need to have faith in a social embodiment of the spirit which was in Jesus, associations that shall apply the Divine spirit to every relation of life; by which in our existing society we may be educated from its prejudices and falsehoods into the truth as it is in Jesus, into the application of his life and teachings to the problems which now cloud our path—slavery, hired labor, pauperism, crime.

James Handasyd Perkins, born July 31, 1810.

AUGUST 1.

The minister in days like these ought to make it his duty as well as his right to express the fellowship of faith with all believers, whatever christian name they bear. Let not religon seem the affair of a party.

We ought never to seem to have despaired of truth, or leave the region of thought, and retreat into organizaton and drill as safe refuges. This is what ecclesiasticism and ritualism have done. *Phillips Brooks.*

AUGUST 2.

There is no parallel to the authority of Christ. He bears no sword. He has no armies. He reigns in conscience, the one person in all time whose authority cannot be disputed, yet which never rests on physical force. He is supreme through the ascendancy of his almighty love. He holds men as the law of gravitation holds the physical universe, and they circle around him, every planet in its place, every sun in its sphere, moving in harmony by his supreme love. *Andrew M. Fairbairn.*

AUGUST 3.

The system of parochial churches, each a center of all Christian influences, is essential to the right working of our principle of local self-government in the State. The genius of our people dreads the centralization of power, refuses to collect the majority of government into one imperial locality, sets up everywhere the municipal, local democracy, and insists that the people shall attend to the business of governing themselves. In such a system of society, the only religious principle, so far as order and organization are concerned, in harmony with the genius of the people, is the principle of self-governed churches. How happy the lot of a great people whose institutions in Church and State rest on the basis of local self-government!

Leonard Bacon, died Dec. 23, 1881, aged 80.

AUGUST 4.

The State ought not to be considered as a partnership for a temporary interest, to be dissolved by the fancy of the parties. It is a partnership in all science, in all art, in every virtue, in all perfection. As the ends of such a partnership cannot be obtained in many generations, it becomes a partnership not only between those who are living, but between those who are living and those who are dead, and those who are to be born. *Edmund Burke.*

AUGUST 5.

The Mayflower and the Speedwell, freighted with the first colony of New England, leave Southampton for America, August 5. 1620. They had not gone far before the smaller vessel was found to need repairs, and they put back to Plymouth, and dismiss her.

George Bancroft, 1800-1891.

May freedom's oak for ever live
With stronger life from day to day;
That man's the best Conservative
Who lops the mouldered branch away.
Gigantic daughter of the West,
We drink to thee across the flood;
We know thee and we love thee best,
For art thou not of British blood?

Alfred Tennyson, born Aug. 5, 1809.

AUGUST 6.

The best manner of preparing for the last moment is to spend all the preceding well. The Christian life is a long and continued tendency toward the Eternal Goodness. Our happiness consists in thirsting for it. This thirst is prayer. Ever desire to approach your Creator, and you will never cease to pray. Do not think it necessary to pronounce many words. The best of all prayers is to act with a pure intention, a continual reference to the will of God.

Francis Fenelon, born Aug. 6, 1651.

AUGUST 7.

The witness of History to Christ has ever seemed to my mind the most convincing external evidence of our faith. We read the systems of ancient philosophy, and in spite of great and noble elements in which they abound, we see their incapacity to regenerate the world. Then we see the light of Christianity dawning. It breathes a new life, a new hope, and a new holiness into a guilty and decrepit world. We see the work grow and spread. And we recall the principle the wise Rabbi uttered, "If this work be of men, it will come to nought; but if of God, ye cannot overthrow it."

Frederic W. Farrar, born Aug. 7, 1831.

AUGUST 8.

We humbly believe the day is fast approaching when He whom Jews crucified, and whose revelation Christians have often disgraced, will break down the partition between them, and make both races one in religion, in heart, and life—Semite and Aryan, Jew and Gentile, united to bless and evangelize the world. *F. W. Farrar.*

AUGUST 9.

For many blessings because they be common, most men forget to pay their praises, but let not us; because it is a sacrifice pleasing to Him that made us, and protects us, and gives us flowers and showers and stomachs and leisure to go a fishing.

Izaak Walton, born Aug. 9, 1593.

AUGUST 10.

Religion is of as much use to the State as education, and more. If it pervades society, the number of poor and of criminals will be greatly reduced. It is in fact the principal auxiliary in all common interests. The difficulties in regard to separation of Church and State are too strong to be overcome, for they arise from that multiplicity of sects, which is the product of human freedom and human weakness, mixing the realities of Christianity with speculations beyond the domain of practical religion or touching the nature of the church. Hence, while religion is a prime interest of the State, and should be allied with it on some plan, in practice it must be separated, because men of equal rights cannot agree what is truth.

Theodore Dwight Woolsey, died July 1, 1889, aged 88.

AUGUST 11.

There is in solitude a power
To calm the breast when passions lower;
Touched by its influence, in the soul arise
Diviner feelings, kindred with the skies.

Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home;
Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet! I do not ask to see
The distant scene—one step enough for me.
John H. Newman, died Aug. 11, 1890, aged 89.

AUGUST 12.

The Gospel of John tells us most of what we know about the mind of Jesus. The word *truth* is found upon the lips of Jesus only in that book. This utterance in the fourth Gospel does not appear in the other three. John is more to us than Matthew. A word of Jesus, which most impressed the most sympathetic and spiritual of his disciples, will admit us into his heart. It is a word of the intellect. When we find it constantly in the record of that disciple who understood him best, we know that He cared for the intellect of man, that He was not satisfied simply to win man's affection by kindness, or govern man's will by authority, but also wished to persuade man's mind with truth. *Phillips Brooks.*

AUGUST 13.

Of Law there can be no less acknowledged, than that her seat is the bosom of God, her voice the harmony of the world; all things in heaven and earth do her homage, the very least as feeling her care, and the greatest as not exempt from her power: both angels and men, and creatures of what condition soever, though each in different sort and manner, yet all, with uniform consent, admiring her as the mother of their peace and joy.

Richard Hooker, 1553-1609.

AUGUST 14.

The application of Christ as a living, present person, is our perpetual need. He must walk amid the golden candlesticks, or vain their gold, vain their shining. He must hold the stars in his right hand, or the constellary bands are broken, "the sweet influences" cease to bind the Pleiades. We need to feel Him as a living presence, enrobing us as with another being, dwelling in us as a new and higher life, the Supreme Head, the Coronal Mind, the Central Heart.

Truman M. Post.

AUGUST 15.

Within this awful volume lies
The mystery of mysteries.
O happiest they of human race
To whom our God has given grace
To hear, to read, to fear, to pray,
To lift the latch, and force the way:
But better had they ne'er been born,
Who read to doubt, or read to scorn.

Walter Scott, born Aug. 15, 1771.

AUGUST 16.

The Reformation was the re-establishment of the principles of primitive Christianity. The one was the re-appearance of the other. In the sixteenth century Christianity displayed the same regenerative power which it had exercised in the first. God chose the Reformers of the church from the same worldly condition, from whence He had before taken the Apostles. Zwingle emerged from a shepherd's hut among the Alps; Melancthon, the theologian of the Reformation, from the work-shop; Luther, from the cottage of a poor miner.

J. H. Merle D'Aubigne, born Aug. 16, 1794.

AUGUST 17.

The prophetic function of the church is undervalued. Men come to church, and say they come to worship God, not to hear man. What do they mean? What is it to worship? Is it to sing a fourth-rate hymn to a third-rate tune? Is it offering unpremeditated supplications in an unconnected prayer? If God lives, must He not speak to you as well as hear you speak to him? What is the sermon but God's speech to you? The man who dares to speak for God ought to spend his days in God's company, ought to think himself into the mysteries of his truth. You laymen, who like to see the minister on the street, and have him in the house, and meet him in society, and expect him to be everywhere save where he ought to be, in the society of God,—let me tell you that not until the churches know what to expect of the men who are their prophets, and ministers know to give inspired thought in inspired speech, will the church rise to her divine function. *A. M. Fairbairn.*

AUGUST 18.

Shall we the Spirit's course restrain,
Or quench the heavenly fire?
Let God his messengers ordain,
And whom He will, inspire.

Charles Wesley, 1708-1788.

AUGUST 19.

The influences which brought Paul to speak of death as a shorter way to Christ than living till He came, which led John to treat the eternal life of heaven as now and here, would have alienated the Christian mind from the mythology of its infancy, and lifted it to a higher experience. Time would have dissipated the scheme of the Parousia (Second Advent), the Messianic (Jewish) version of the kingdom of God. Those opposite conceptions would not have been tied together as functions of the same religion. But the church committed itself to them. Hence, a hopeless contention. *James Martineau*, born Ap. 21, 1805.

AUGUST 20.

Youth is the only time
To think and to decide on a great course;
Manhood with action follows; but 'tis dreary
To have to alter our whole life in age—
The time past, the strength gone.

Robert Browning.

AUGUST 21.

We were neither enamored of frills and furbelows of a decorative Christianity, making small appeal to the judgment or conscience, but trying to allure men by embroidered robes and vested choirs; nor reverential towards the titular bishops, chiefly distinguished by aprons, leggings, and uncommon hats. At the same time, we were anxious to have the church forms in our communion made more social and comely, to bring into them more responsive elements, to add to them a dignity and rhymth they often lacked, to have the churches made attractive to young and old of all classes, to put the influence of the Gospel into all social relations, and make it more controlling in the life of communities.

Richard Salter Storrs, born Aug. 21, 1821.

AUGUST 22.

Therein stands the office of a king,
His honor, virtue, merit, and chief praise,
That for the public all this weight he bears.
But to guide nations in the way of truth
By saving doctrine, and from error lead
To know, and, knowing, worship God aright,
Is yet more kingly. *Milton.*

AUGUST 23.

In a stormy and divided age—stormy with the storms of three revolutions, divided with the divisions of a hundred sects—Baxter advocated unity and comprehension. Many other thoughts abounded in that teeming brain, but they are secondary. This was primary and ever-recurring. In the proclamation of this message he stands pre-eminent. Zeal for the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace and in righteousness of life was the fundamental dogma of his theology. Sin and moral evil were in his judgment the only grounds of division in Christendom; holiness and moral goodness the only grounds of union here or hereafter.

A. P. Stanley.

AUGUST 24.

I am a member of a small but somewhat remarkable sect—a religious body which has a remarkable origin, and in its early days at least a somewhat remarkable history. It is of all religious sects the one that has taught the equality and equal rights of man, and I venture to say it is remarkable for another thing; that within its borders and in its services personal ambition is practically unknown.

John Bright, born Aug. 24, 1811.

AUGUST 25.

I consider the Gospel a finished revelation of God to man, never to be altered, sophisticated, or modified; as made for our vigilant conservation, our personal conformity, our obedience, and so for our salvation. I have aimed to defend it against all modifiers, corrupters, counterfeiters. To refute error, and reject all substitutes for truth, is my necessary duty. My preaching has been marked and sometimes censured for my uncompromising and all-pervading Protestantism. *Samuel Hanson Cox.*

Born Aug. 25, 1793; died Oct. 2, 1881.

AUGUST 26.

Jesus described his life, crowned by his death, as the imperishable service by which in all ages men would be cleansed from sin, and brought to God. He thus put himself above all others, although they would be his brethren, and claimed unique and permanent importance as Redeemer and Judge. This he secured by the impression of his life, and the interpretation of his death as a victory, the passing over to his glory awakening the conviction in his followers that he lives as Lord and Judge of all. The distinction of good and evil—for God or against God—Jesus makes the life-question for every man.

Adolph Harnack.

AUGUST 27.

When at last the solemn hour shall come,
And wing my mystic flight to future worlds,
I cheerful will obey; there, with new powers,
Will rising wonders sing: I cannot go
Where Universal Love smiles not around,
Sustaining all yon orbs, and all their suns;
From seeming evil still educing good,
And better thence again, and better still,
In infiinite progression. But I lose
Myself in Him, in light ineffable:
Come then, expressive silence, muse His praise!

James Thomson, died Aug. 27, 1748, aged 48.

AUGUST 28.

Truth, wherever found, is the property of Christ's Church. *Augustine*, died Aug. 28, 430, aged 76.

AUGUST 29.

Truth scarce ever carried it by vote at its first appearance: new opinions are suspected and opposed without other reason, but because they are not already common. But truth, like gold, is not the less so for being newly brought out of the mine; though not yet current by the public stamp, it may be as old as nature, and not the less genuine. *John Locke*, born Aug. 29, 1637.

True Christian consistency implies progress in knowledge and holiness, and such changes as are demanded by increasing light. *Charles G. Finney*, born Aug. 29, 1792.

AUGUST 30.

The influence of names is in exact proportion to the want of knowledge. *William Paley*, born Aug. 30, 1743.

AUGUST 31.

He that is down needs fear no fall;
He that is low, no pride;
He that is humble ever shall
Have God to be his guide.
John Bunyan, died Aug. 31, 1688, aged 60.

SEPTEMBER 1.

To enforce the sense of duty; to strengthen the will; to kindle the flame of religious affection; to turn the thoughts to whatever is pure, honest, lovely and of good report; to make Sunday last through the week; to bring consolation to sorrow; to organize charity; to stimulate Christian activity; to summon youth to holy living and brave dying; to drive clouds of darkness from the ways of men and from the wayside; to bring the kingdom of God into the world;—these are the functions of the Christian priesthood.

George Frisbie Hoar, born Aug. 29, 1826.

SEPTEMBER 2.

Patience hath a countenance serene, a forehead smooth, with no wrinkle of grief or anger, eyes cast down in humility, not in melancholy. Her mouth beareth the seal of honorable silence. Her clothing about her bosom is white, and closely fitted to the body, neither puffed out nor ruffled. She sitteth on the throne of the gentle Spirit, who is not in the whirlwind, nor in the black cloud, but in the still, small voice, such as Elijah heard at the third time. (I. Kings xix. 12). *Tertullian*, 160-230.

SEPTEMBER 3.

John Howard (born Sept. 2, 1726, died Jan. 20, 1790) visited all Europe to dive into the depths of dungeons, to plunge into the infection of hospitals, to survey the mansions of sorrow and pain, to take the gauge and dimensions of misery, depression and contempt, to remember the forgotten, to attend to the neglected, to visit the forsaken, and to compare and collate the distresses of all men in all countries. *Edmund Burke.*

The want and injustice of the present social state are not necessary. Taking men in the aggregate, their condition is as they make it. Economic law and moral law are essentially one. *Henry George*, born Sept. 2, 1830.

SEPTEMBER 4.

To be catholic, and remain a Protestant, is the real thing for mankind.

Louis A. Thiers, died Sept. 3, 1877, aged 80.

For my own person I never touched a penny which I had not earned by my own honest work, nor ever shall.

Louis Kossuth.

SEPTEMBER 5.

I seek to imitate the modern Socrates. At five and twenty, he (Benjamin Franklin) formed the design of becoming perfectly wise. I dared to undertake the same thing, though not twenty.

Humanity is the aggregate of all human beings, past, present, future. Solidarity and continuity are essential attributes of "The Religion of Humanity." The dead live again. In some the soul of Plato or of Jesus is risen.

Auguste Comte, died Sept. 5, 1857, aged 59.

SEPTEMBER 6.

The highest humanity is the highest Christianity. Parts of the Divine Nature are beyond our reach. It is impossible to be like God in His infinity, omniscience; but it is possible to be like Christ in sincerity, courage, faith, purity, love. And if we make the struggle, the Christian life may be one long epiphany, a continually brightening manifestation of God in our souls. The earthly manifestation of the Fatherhood of God is the brotherhood of men. The picture the prophet of the future presents (Isaiah xi. 13) is not of a world in which Judah and Ephraim cease to exist, but of a world in which Ephraim will no longer vex Judah, nor Judah envy Ephraim. It supposes not the extinction of varieties among Christians, but their co-operation.

Edwin Hatch, born Sept. 4, 1835.

SEPTEMBER 7.

The Twentieth century begins with a new conception of Catholicity. Uniformity of doctrine is impossible, the solitary prevalence of one denomination undesirable. A man who knows only his fellow-religionists is like one who studies himself in a mirror. The Sixteenth century was the era of reformation; the Seventeenth of separation; the Eighteenth of toleration; the Nineteenth of religious equality. Some of us believe and desire that the Twentieth may be the century of reunion. *Alexander Mackennal.*

SEPTEMBER 8.

Next to the fugitives Moses led out of Egypt, the little shipload of outcasts who landed at Plymouth are destined to influence the history of the world. The spiritual thirst of mankind has for ages been quenched at Hebrew fountains, but the embodiment in human institutions of truths uttered by the Son of Man was to be mainly the work of Puritan thought and devotion. There can be no nobler aim or more practical wisdom than to make the law of man a living counterpart of the law of God.

J. R. Lowell.

SEPTEMBER 9.

One of our Lord's chief difficulties was to keep clear of political excitements, to avoid rousing those turbulent expectations of a change in their outward condition which the multitude associated with the Messiah. An attempt of the kind would have brought his work to ruin. A chief reason why Luther's work abode, and Savonarola's came to nothing was that Luther's was a Church Reformation, and nothing else, leaving any other to follow, as in time it must; while that of the Italian friar would fain have been a Reformation of Church and State in one.

R. C. Trench.

SEPTEMBER 10.

Do not charge most innocent Nature,
As if she would her children should be riotous
With her abundance; she, good cateress,
Means her provision only to the good,
That live according to her sober laws,
And holy dictates of spare Temperance:
If every just man, that now pines with want,
Had but a moderate and beseeming share
Of that which lewdly-pampered Luxury
Now heaps upon some few with vast excess,
Nature's full blessings would be well dispensed
In unsuperfluous even proportion. *John Milton.*

SEPTEMBER 11.

Happiest of men, who far from public rage,
Deep in the vale, with a choice few retired,
Drinks the pure pleasures of the Rural Life.
Rich in content, in Nature's bounty rich;
Here too dwells simple truth; plain innocence;
Unsullied beauty; sound unbroken youth,
Patient of labor, with a little pleased;
Health ever blooming; unambitious toil;
Calm contemplation, and poetic ease.

James Thomson, born Sept. 11, 1700.

SEPTEMBER 12.

The object of study is the enlargement and improvement of the mind, not the mere acquisition of knowledge. If we were to attend to our characters in youth, we might cure many faults and weaknesses which are gradually becoming a part of us. We want to strengthen the better elements in ourselves, and starve and subdue the worse; we want to get rid of the secret faults which are known to ourselves only, and live in innocence and the fear of God. Let us keep our minds above our bodies. The errors of young men only become irretrievable when they persist in them.

B. Jowett.

SEPTEMBER 13.

O soul, be stedfast in thy lot,
In marble shade or rustic cot;
Permit the wealth the fates bestow,
But in its void no pining know.
Though fortunes fail, and prospects frown,
May duty keep her matchless crown,
Nor desolation bid depart
The glories of a guileless heart.

Julia Ward Howe.

SEPTEMBER 14.

Dante shows what sin is (Inferno), the way of purification (Purgatorio), the blessedness of the righteous (Paradiso). Virgil shows to Dante the deep abyss, those who have sinned most, deepest down, farthest from God. Lucifer at the bottom of the pit, torturing his followers, is a truer representative of sin than Milton's Satan or Goethe's Mephistopheles. Milton gives strength and daring to Satan. Goethe makes Mephistopheles a pleasant companion. Dante shows Lucifer foul and loathsome in self-indulgence. Man is punished by his sins, to live in them, in the foul character they have generated. Sin demonizes, but does not annihilate.

Of Monarchy, the Heavens, the Fire, the Pit,
I sang as far as to the Fates seemed fit;
But now my soul hath flown to nobler wars,
And gone to seek its Maker mid the stars.

Dante, died Sept. 14, 1321.
Inscription on his tomb, written by himself.

SEPTEMBER 15.

You may not join the zealots with Ruskin, who called Dante "the central man of all the world"; you may, however, agree with Lowell that among men of genius, if Shakespeare was the most comprehensive intellect, "Dante was the highest spiritual nature."

James Davie Butler, born March 15, 1815.

SEPTEMBER 16.

(The Mayflower sailed from Plymouth, England, having on board the Pilgrim Fathers of New England, Sept. 16, 1620.)

She is still sailing, her sails set for eternity, destined to illumined seas, and more and more to enter into the universal voice and vision of human history. *T. M. Post.*

The Pilgrims were the servants of posterity, the benefactors of succeeding generations. In history many pages are devoted to the heroes who have besieged cities, subdued provinces, or overthrown empires. A colony is a better offering than a victory. The citizens of the United States should cherish the memory of those who founded a state on the basis of democratic liberty, who, as they first trod the soil of the new world, scattered the seminal principles of republican freedom and national independence.

George Bancroft.

SEPTEMBER 17.

The Constitution (agreed upon in Convention, Sept. 17, 1787) is the great result of the American Revolution, the giant stride in the improvement of the condition of the human race. Of the signers of the Constitution, under which we live with enjoyments never before allotted to man, the last survivor was James Madison.

John Quincy Adams, 1767-1848.

American civilization is the furthest point yet reached by any age or nation.

Orestes A. Brownson, born Sept. 16, 1803.

The presence of highly cultivated and vigorous minds is the most powerful aid to popular education. A class of strong thinkers is the palladium of democracy. They are the natural enemies of ostentation and aggressive wealth. The vastest aggregate of average intelligences cannot supply their place. *Francis Parkman*, born Sept, 16, 1823.

SEPTEMBER 18.

I call upon you, my countrymen; Resist every project of disunion, every attempt to smother your public schools, or extinguish your system of public instruction.

Joseph Story, born Sept. 18, 1779.

SEPTEMBER 19.

New France was the offspring of a triumphant government, a gigantic ambition of Feudalism, Monarchy, and Rome, to grasp a continent; New England, the offspring of an oppressed and fugitive people: one, an unflinching champion of the Roman Catholic reaction; the other, a vanguard of the Reform. Each followed its natural laws of growth; each came to its natural result. Vitalized by the principles of its founders, the Puritan commonwealth grew apace. New England was the land of progress; a prize within every man's reach; assiduity in the pursuit of gain promoted to the rank of a duty; thrift and godliness linked in wedlock.

Turn to New France, all is reversed; her story a story of war with savage tribes and with heresy and England. It was a vain attempt. Borne down by numbers from without, wasted by corruption from within, New France fell.

F. Parkman.

SEPTEMBER 20.

I must keep on good terms with myself. I could not respect myself if I were to remain silent while wrong is being done. I cannot yield to what is not right.

The report of our Free Public Library for the year 1902 shows results which are exceedingly gratifying to us. We look forward confidently to another year of even greater results, if earnest effort can achieve them.

Philip M. Crapo, died Sept. 20, 1903, aged 59.

SEPTEMBER 21.

I had two noble places of study; one, a public library; the other, yonder beach (Newport, Rhode Island), my daily resort, dear to me in the sunshine, still more attractive in the storm. No spot on earth has helped to form me so much as that beach. There I lifted up my voice in praise amidst the tempest. There, softened by beauty, I poured out my thanksgiving and contrite confession. There in sympathy with the power around me, I became conscious of power within. There struggling thoughts and emotions broke forth, as if moved to utterance by nature's eloquence of winds and waves. There began a happiness surpassing all worldly pleasures, all gifts of fortune, the happiness of communing with the works of God. I thank God that this beautiful island was the place of my birth.

William Ellery Channing, 1780-1842.

SEPTEMBER 22.

Go forth under the open sky, and list
To Nature's teachings, while from all around,
Earth, and her waters, and the depths of air,
Comes a still voice. *W. C. Bryant.*

SEPTEMBER 23.

If we would learn perfect goodness, if we wish to warm our hearts with the love of it, we can adopt no method so effectual as the study, the contemplation, of the life of Jesus. He is the perfect man, a miracle more striking than the most stupendous work of a physical nature, a character such as the Evangelists could never have feigned, such as imposters would never have imagined. Never do I feel how lovely is virtue, never do I so earnestly desire to subdue my passions, and put on humility and universal love, as when I behold the glory of God in the face, in the actions, in the words, of Jesus Christ. *W. E. Channing.*

SEPTEMBER 24.

The Psalms express the sacred duty of being happy. "A joyful and pleasant thing" it is to be thankful. This is the meaning of the word "Psalm." The Hebrew word which is their pith and marrow is "Hallelujah." Be happy, cheerful, thankful as we can, we cannot go beyond the Psalms. They laugh, they shout, they cry for joy. A wild exhilaration rings through them. They see God's goodness everywhere. The fury of the thunderstorm, the roaring of the sea are full of magnificence and delight. Affection for birds, beasts, plants, sun, moon, stars, is like that Francis of Assisi claimed for these fellow-creatures, as his brothers and sisters. *A. P. Stanley.*

SEPTEMBER 25.

Bring flowers to the shrine where we kneel in prayer;
They are nature's offering, their place is there;
They speak of hope to the fainting heart,
With a voice of promise they come and part,
They sleep in dust through the wintry hours,
They break forth in glory—bring flowers, bright flowers.

There's beauty all around our paths, if but our watchful eyes
Can trace it midst familiar things, and through their lowly guise,
And feel that by the lights and clouds through which our pathway lies,
By the beauty and the grief alike, we are training for the skies.

Felicia Hemans, born Sept. 25, 1793.

SEPTEMBER 26.

The Religion of the Spirit is the true obedience and consecration of the soul to the law of goodness, the religion of personal faith and of freedom. Christ created a new state of soul. His revelation is not superimposed upon the conscience, like that of Moses; it is realized in the conscience itself, raised to a higher point of clear sight and energy. The essential characteristic of the Gospel is that it has raised heart piety to be the very essence of religion.

Auguste Sabatier.

SEPTEMBER 27.

Collegiate gymnasiums were established to counteract physical infirmities engendered by sedentary lives. Their exercises were deemed conductive to the highest intellectual culture. But this opinion has proved unwarranted unless where athletics have been practiced moderately, no more than was needful for health and recreation. The best gymnasts are rarely the best scholars. Such must be the case so long as no man can serve two masters. Hercules was not Apollo, and could not walk in his circle. The athlete has his sphere, but the more his training reaches its acme, the more it incapacitates him for attaining excellence in intellectual achievement. The truth of this assertion is evinced by a fact which should be kept before the people: no Olympian victor was ever victorious in any department of Greek literature; none became famous as poet, philosopher, orator, historian, artist, or even general.

James D. Butler.

SEPTEMBER 28.

He who would be a great soul in future, must be a great soul now. *R. W. Emerson.*

SEPTEMBER 29.

We cannot conceive of a more beautiful image than that of the genius of agriculture, distinguished by the implements of his art, imbrowned with labor, glowing with health, crowned with a garland of foliage, flowers, and fruit, lying stretched at his ease on the brow of a gentle swelling hill, contemplating with pleasure the happy effects of his own industry. *Oliver Goldsmith.*

SEPTEMBER 30.

Many are asking how war can be stayed. The nations have been told to look to arbitration. Arbitration is a method of law, and as in the midst of war the laws are silent, it is also true that in the midst of the laws arms are silent. One great cause of war is that nations will not believe they are wrong when they are judges in their own case. The hope of peace through arbitration is that nations may believe they have made a mistake if impartial authorities tell them so. There have been some international arbitrations; in none have both sides been satisfied. Nevertheless, the awards have been accepted, wars have been prevented. The habit of appealing to law takes away the desire to resort to arms. By the acceptance of arbitration, we shall not be released from the duty of overcoming international evil with international good.

A. Mackennal.

OCTOBER 1.

Jesus distinguished himself from Moses and the prophets; not a disciple of Moses, he corrected that lawgiver; not a prophet, but Master and Lord. He did not impose asceticism, nor live as an ascetic. He enjoined simplicity, kept his disciples from fanaticism, attributed no value to ceremonies as such, ignored the whole sacrificial system, taught the prayer which demands a collected mind and elevation of spirit. Christianity is not a positive religion alongside of others, but religion itself Christ enters into our life as God's spirit, God's word.

A. Harnack.

OCTOBER 2.

Our present low civilization, the central idea of which is wealth, cannot last for ever; the mass of men are not doomed hopelessly to the degradation in which they are sunk. A new comprehension of the end and dignity of a human being is to remodel social institutions and manners. In Christianity and in the powers of human nature we have promise of something holier and happier than now exists. We have been made drunk with the spirit of rapid accumulation, and maddened with prospects of boundless wealth. Nothing but Christianity, which is in direct hostility to the present spirit of accumulation, can heal the woes of society.

W. E. Channing, died Oct. 2, 1842, aged 62..

OCTOBER 3.

In 1784, America was thoroughly a Protestant country. The whole number of Catholics in the Thirteen States, as reported by themselves, was 32,500: in New England 600, New York and New Jersey 1700, Pennsylvania and Delaware 7700, Maryland 12,000 freemen, 8,000 slaves, Southern States 2500; in Kaskaskia and other places purely French 12,000. The Roman Catholic clergy in the colonies had been superintended by a person in London; during the war they were directed by Jesuits who favored the British. Barbe Marbois wrote, Philadelphia, Aug. 15, 1784: "The Catholics, always directed by the Jesuits in this country, have been ill-disposed to the Revolution."

George Bancroft, born Oct. 3, 1800.

OCTOBER 4.

Conscience is a personal guide. I use it because I must use myself. I am as little able to think by any mind but my own as to breathe with another's lungs. Conscience is nearer to me than any other means of knowledge. Carried about by every individual in his breast, it communicates to each the knowledge most important to him, independently of books. Conscience teaches not only that God is, but what He is. It gives a rule of right and wrong. Its most prominent teaching about Him whom by means of it we perceive, is that He is our Judge. The special attribute under which it brings Him before us is justice.

J. H. Newman.

OCTOBER 5.

Resolved, To do whatever I think to be my duty, and most for the good and advantage of mankind in general, whatever difficulties I meet with, how many soever, how great soever (1723).

It is probable that the most glorious renovation of the world will originate from the new continent, and the sun of the new heavens rise in the west (1739).

Jonathan Edwards, born Oct. 5, 1703.

OCTOBER 6.

Old age hath yet his honor and his toil;
Death closes all: but something ere the end,
Some work of noble note, may yet be done.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no moaning of farewell,
When I embark;

For though from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.

Alfred Tennyson, died Oct. 6, 1892, aged 83.

OCTOBER 7.

O soul, be content to pass into shade,
And live in the light thy actions have made.

My bark is wafted to the strand
By breath divine;
And on the helm there rests a hand
Other than mine:
One who has known in storms to sail
I have on board;
Above the raging of the gale
I hear my Lord.

Henry Alford, born Oct. 7, 1810.

OCTOBER 8.

For the heaven we seek, we need not fly away to some unknown region. The elements of that glorious future are present here in our very hands. The divine and eternal are ever near. God does not dwell in some far-off point of space. He is not anywhere more present than on this earth. The only thing needed to bring the beatific vision of his presence is quickening of soul. Let pure light fill the mind, and pure love the heart, and heaven would be here the common air, and skies become resplendent with divine glory. The eternal world is waiting to break through the veil of earthly things, and suffuse with ineffable radiance the common life of man. *John Caird.*

OCTOBER 9.

Be the change which death brings what it may, he who has spent his life in trying to make this world better, can never be unprepared for another. The rending of the veil which hides the secrets of the unseen world, the summons into regions unknown, need awaken no perturbation or dismay, for you cannot in God's universe go where love and truth and self-devotion are things of naught, or where a soul filled with faith in goodness, and identifying its own happiness with goodness, shall find itself forsaken.

John Caird.

OCTOBER 10.

I have been long engaged studying modern civilization. In doing so, I have travelled largely on the North American continent, and am now (1871) observing Asiatic countries. I do not undervalue missionary labors, but the Christian religion, for its acceptance, involves some intellectual and social advancement which can only be effected through international commerce. I look, therefore, chiefly to commerce for the regeneration of China. It is essential that the Western nations practise equal justice toward China. True commerce involves reciprocity, not exclusive gain on either side, and it flourishes in proportion to the good faith and equality with which it is conducted. * * * In my wanderings I have looked the whole human family in the face, and taken by the hand and conversed with my fellow man in his lowest degradation and in his highest civilization. I have found no nation so distant, no race so low, that the character of an American citizen did not secure to me safety, respect, consideration, affection.

William H. Seward, died Oct. 10, 1872, aged 71.

OCTOBER 11.

War concentrates all the varieties of human misery. It is essentially barbarous, and will be looked upon by more enlightened and Christian ages with the horror with which we recall the atrocities of savage tribes. As a people, we are blind to the crimes and miseries of war. The merciful spirit of our religion is little understood. The law of love preached from the cross and written in the blood of the Saviour is trampled on. The dignity of man, which consists in cherishing justice and philanthropy towards every human being, is counted folly in comparison with vindictiveness and self-aggrandizement. Shall not the mild and holy spirit of Christianity find a voice to rebuke and awe the wickedness which precipitates nations into war?

Prince of Peace! Speak in thine own voice, and redeem the world for which thou hast died, from lawless and cruel passion, from rapine and murder, from darkness and hell.

W. E. Channing.

OCTOBER 12.

Were half the power, that fills the world with terror,
Were half the wealth, bestowed on camps and courts,
Given to redeem the human mind from error,
There were no need of arsenals and forts:

The warrior's name would be a name abhorred!
And every nation, that should lift again
Its hand against a brother, on its forehead
Would wear forevermore the brand of Cain!

H. W. Longfellow.

OCTOBER 13.

A good man ought not to calculate the chance of living or dying, but only consider whether he is doing right or wrong, acting the part of a good or of a bad man. Wherever a man's place is, whether that which he has chosen, or that in which he has been placed, there he ought to remain in the hour of danger. Fear of death is a pretense of wisdom, not real wisdom, appearing to know the unknown; since no one knows whether death which they fear to be the greatest evil may not be the greatest good; but I know injustice and disobedience is evil and dishonorable, and I will never fear a possible good rather than a certain evil. *Socrates*, died 399 B. C., aged 70.

OCTOBER 14.

Men of Athens, I honor and love you; but I shall not cease teaching philosophy, and exhorting any one I meet and saying, O my friend, citizen of the great and wise city of Athens, why do you care so much about laying up money, and so little about wisdom? I care not a straw for death; my only fear was of doing an unrighteous thing. I am old and move slowly; my accusers are keen and quick. Those who think death an evil are in error. It is a state of nothingness and unconsciousness, or a change and migration to another world. If there is no consciousness, but a sleep undisturbed by dreams, death will be a gain. But if death be a journey to another place, where all the dead are, what good can be greater? What would not a man give if he might converse with Orpheus and Homer? Above all, I shall be able to continue my search for knowledge.

Socrates.

OCTOBER 15.

Be not afraid of death, as of hobgoblins, said Socrates, but charm him. And when Cebes asked, "Where can we find a charmer, now you are to leave us?" Socrates answered, "Search many nations; spare no money or toil; there is nothing you can spend money for more reasonably than in seeking a charmer."

Plato, died 348 B. C., aged 81.

"Where is that charmer which thou bid'st us seek?
On what far shores may his sweet voice be heard?"
So spake the youth of Athens, weeping round,
When Socrates lay down to die.

But years passed on; and lo! the charmer came,—
Like the Athenian Sage, rejected, scorned,
He told his faithful few his doom drew nigh:
"Let not your heart be troubled," then He said:
"My Father's house hath mansions large and fair;
I go before you to prepare your place;
I will return to take you safely there."

And since that hour the awful foe is charmed,
And life and death are glorified and fair.
Whither He went we know; the way we know,
And with firm step press on to meet him there.

Harriet Beecher Stowe.

OCTOBER 16.

Be of good comfort, Master Ridley, and play the man; for we shall this day light such a candle, by God's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out. *Hugh Latimer.*

Burnt at the stake, Oct. 16, 1555, in Oxford, aged 65.

Nicholas Ridley, aged 55.

OCTOBER 17.

Jesus called himself Son of God in language which offended the Jews; but in prospect of death he claimed the same high relation. What a union of lowliness and majesty! The character he assumes of Lord and Sovereign of the whole human race, appointed by God to recover the world to piety, and give eternal life to his obedient disciples, is more august and sublime than ever before entered human imagination. His great desire and prayer was that the men to whom his religion was to be confided, should fulfil their trust, and by their lives and preaching fill the world with his truth. Future ages crowded on his mind. Though insulted, dishonored, he thought only of enlightening and saving mankind. *W. E. Channing.*

OCTOBER 18.

"Not as I will"; the sound grows sweet
Each time my lips the words repeat.
"Not as I will," because the One
Who loved us first and best has gone
Before us on the road, and still
Must all His love fulfil.
After the ages have all countless grown,
Our souls will poise and launch with eager wing,
Forgetting blessedness already known,
In sweet impatience for God's next good thing.

Helen Hunt Jackson,
Born Oct. 18, 1831; died Aug. 12, 1885.

OCTOBER 19.

I consider the discovery of America as the opening of a grand design in Providence for the emancipation of mankind all over the earth. The Union is our rock of safety, as well as the pledge of our grandeur. A prospect into futurity in America is like contemplating the heavens through the telescope; objects stupendous in magnitude and motion strike us from all quarters, and fill us with amazement. *John Adams*, born Oct. 19, 1735.

It is a delicious moment, nestled in bed, feeling that you shall drop to sleep, the limbs tired enough to render one position delightful. A gentle failure of perception creeps over you; consciousness disengages itself with slow and hushing degrees, like a mother disengaging her hand from that of a sleeping child; the mind seems to have a balmy lid closing over it, like the eye—it is closed—the mysterious spirit has gone to take its airy round.

Leigh Hunt, born Oct. 19, 1784.

OCTOBER 20.

With the blessing of God, I will war and war continually against the abandonment to slavery of a single foot of soil now consecrated to Freedom. April 8, 1854.

When I took an oath that "in all things appertaining to the trial of the impeachment of Andrew Johnson I would render impartial justice according to the Constitution and the laws," I became a judge, acting on my own responsibility and accountable only to my conscience and my Maker; and no power could force me to decide in such a case, contrary to my convictions, to suit the requirements of a party, whether that party were composed of my friends or my enemies. May 26, 1868.

James W. Grimes, born Oct. 20, 1816.

OCTOBER 21.

Where God is, there is his foster-child, Patience.
Tertullion.

O'er wayward childhood wouldst thou hold firm rule,
And sun thee in the light of happy faces;
Love, Hope, and Patience, these must be thy graces,
And in thine own heart let them first keep school.
Yet haply there will come a weary day,
When Love and Hope beneath the load give way,
Then with a statue's smile, a statue's strength,
Stands the mute sister, Patience, nothing loth,
And both supporting does the work of both.

The Sensual and the Dark rebel in vain,
Slaves by their own compulsion. In mad game
They burst their manacles and wear the name
Of Freedom, graven on a heavier chain.
For freedom can with those alone abide,
Who wear the golden chain, with honest pride,
Of love and duty, at their own fire-side.
Samuel T. Coleridge, born Oct. 21, 1772.

OCTOBER 22.

I expect neither profit nor fame by my writings; I consider myself amply repaid without either. Poetry has been to me its own exceeding great reward; it has soothed my afflictions, multiplied and refined my enjoyments, endeared solitude, and given me the habit of wishing to discover the Good and the Beautiful in all that meets and surrounds me.
S. T. Coleridge.

OCTOBER 23.

As Evangelical Christians, we are not bound to Luther or Calvin, but to Jesus Christ. Nor de we depart from the testimony of history when we rediscover in Luther's conception of faith the moving spirit of Protestantism. Professor Schaff's proposal, 1889, for a brief, simple creed, which shall express only the cardinal doctrines of faith and duty, full of the marrow of the gospel of God's infinite love in Christ for the salvation of the world, is to be warmly commended. We shall perhaps follow some day, if the Evangelicals in America go before with the torch.

A. Harnack.

OCTOBER 24.

When my eyes shall be turned to behold for the last time the sun in heaven, may I not see him shining on the broken and dishonored fragments of a once glorious Union, on states dissevered, discordant, belligerent, on a land rent with civil feuds, or drenched, it may be, in fraternal blood. Let their last feeble and lingering glance rather behold the gorgeous ensign of the Republic, now known and honored throughout the earth, still full high advanced, its arms and trophies streaming in their original lustre, not a stripe erased or polluted, not a single star obscured—bearing for its motto no such miserable interrogatory as *What is all this worth?* nor those other words of delusion and folly, *Liberty first, and Union afterwards*—but everywhere, spread all over in characters of living light, blazing on all its ample folds, as they float over the sea and over the land, and in every wind under the whole heavens, that other sentiment, dear to every true American heart—*Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.*

Daniel Webster, died Oct. 24, 1852, aged 71.

OCTOBER 25.

William III. was from conviction a Latitudinarian. He owned episcopacy a lawful and convenient form of church government; but spoke with sharpness and scorn of the bigotry of those who thought episcopal ordination essential to Christian society. He had no scruples about the vestments and gestures prescribed by the Book of Common Prayer. But he avowed that he should like the rites of the Church of England better if they reminded him less of the rites of the Church of Rome.

T. B. Macaulay, born Oct. 25, 1800.

OCTOBER 26.

I can say what no other man in the Kingdom can say, I have been returned four times to Parliament in cities of more than 140,000 inhabitants, and all these elections have not cost me £500. I never did and never will take any steps for obtaining praise or deprecating censure. I never stooped to the part of a demagogue, and never feared to confront an unreasonable clamor.

Then none was for a party;
  Then all were for the State;
Then the great men helped the poor,
  And the poor man loved the great.
Then land was fairly portioned;
  The spoils were fairly sold;
The Romans were like brothers
  In the brave days of old.

T. B. Macaulay.

OCTOBER 27.

Since the Seventeenth century forgiveness of sins in the Catholic church has become to a large extent a refined art; one learns how to receive confession and give absolution, as one learns the art of speculation in the exchange. The Jesuits are the active squad of the church. Except some German scholars, the Catholic authors who are not Jesuits are few. By Probalism the Jesuits transferred deadly into venial sins. They compounded conscience, and wiped out sin with sin. Their ethical hand-books are in part abomination and filth. Shocking things are dealt with in a brazen way, showing how reckless transgressors may still obtain the peace of the church. In France, the effort to emancipate the church from a subtle and lax morality, under one of the great orators and rhetoricians of the ages, Pascal, disappeared in the sand. *A. Harnack.*

OCTOBER 28.

A sense of duty pursues us ever. It is omnipresent, like the Deity. If we take to ourselves the wings of the morning, and dwell in the utmost parts of the seas, duty performed or duty violated, is still with us, for our happiness, or our misery. If we say the darkness shall cover us, in the darkness as in the light our obligations are yet with us. We cannot escape from their power, nor fly from their presence. They are with us in this life, will be with us at its close; and in that scene of inconceivable solemnity which lies further onward—we shall still find ourselves surrounded by the consciousness of duty, to pain us, wherever it has been violated, and to comfort us so far as God may have given us grace to perform it. *Daniel Webster.*

OCTOBER 29.

In my judgment, there is no more commanding duty than attendance at church on Sunday. The public worship of God is to be continued or maintained only by attendance upon it. *George F. Hoar.*

OCTOBER 30.

Virtue could see to do what Virtue would
By her own clear light, though sun and moon
Were in the flat sea sunk. And Wisdom's self
Oft seeks to sweet retired solitude;
Where, with her best nurse Contemplation,
She plumes her feathers, and lets grow her wings.
He that has light within his own clear breast,
May sit in the centre, and enjoy bright day;
But he that hides a dark soul and foul thoughts,
Benighted walks under the mid-day sun;
Himself is his own dungeon. *John Milton.*

OCTOBER 31.

When our Lord Jesus Christ says, "Repent," he means that the whole life of his faithful servants upon earth should be a constant and continual repentance. To hope to be saved by indulgences is to hope in vanity and lies.

Martin Luther.

Theses affixed to the door of the Church at Wittemberg, Oct. 31, 1517.

NOVEMBER 1.

The every-day cares and duties men call drudgery, are the weights and counterpoises of the clock of time, giving the pendulum a true vibration, the hands a regular motion.

H. W. Longfellow.

Duty rises with us in the morning, and goes to rest with us at night. It is the shadow which cleaves to us go where we will, and leaves us only when we leave the light of life.

W. E. Gladstone.

The reward of one duty done is the power to do another.

George Eliot.

NOVEMBER 2.

It was a disaster of the Reformation, that the State in almost every country seized that power over the church which had been wrested from the Roman pontiff. A state church, if it is a church at all in any Christian sense, is a church in fetters. The fetters may be gilded; but gilded and gorgeous they are fetters still. Its unity is uniformity, coerced, not spontaneous; for so far as it is established and controlled by the civil power, it has to do only with things outward and palpable. The voluntary principle of perfect and absolute religious freedom, that gives to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's, thoroughly carried out, and every where established, is essential to the universal and complete manifestaion of the living unity of Christ's disciples.

Leonard Bacon.

NOVEMBER 3.

I cannot but lament the tendency, encouraged by some in the zealous prosecution of science, to turn attention from the teachings of the Gospel, from the example of Christ's life, and the precepts he gave. To those teachings and that example the world owes its recovery from the abominations of heathenism. The men who in the pride of their invesitgaions into the secrets of the material world, turn a look of scorn upon the Christian system of belief, are not aware how much of the peace and order of society, of the happiness of their households and the purity of those dearest to them, are owing to that religion. The character of Christ is so attractive, that I cannot describe in language the admiration with which I regard it. Take away his life would seem to be blotting the sun out of the heavens. For my part, if I thought that scepticism were to gather strength and prevail and become dominant, I should despair of the fate of mankind in the years that are to come.

W. C. Bryant, born Nov. 3, 1794.

NOVEMBER 4.

His youth was innocent; his riper age
Marked with some act of goodness every day;
And watched by eyes that loved him, calm, and sage,
Faded his late declining years away.
Cheerful he gave his being up, and went
To share the holy rest that waits a life well spent.

W. C. Bryant.

NOVEMBER 5.

There was nothing that Luther more loved to say than that "church" meant people, saints, Christians. So speaking, he agreed with the Catholics of the early ages. As Justin counted all truth to be of Christ, as Clement found prophecy in Hellenic philosophy as well as in the Hebrew law, as Augustine believed that there had been a Christianity before Christ, so Luther held that wherever the holy soul is, whether under the Papacy or under the Turks, there is the church. *A. M. Fairbairn.*

NOVEMBER 6.

We are bound to commune with all who, loving the Lord supremely, love their neighbors as themselves. This is a land abounding with sects; in no other country are so many divisions in the church; hence it is wisdom to fraternize with all the children of our common Father. The spirit of our national institutions is that of liberty and equality; no one body is allowed to monopolize the favors of Providence, nor should any one urge exclusive claims to the treasures of grace We are bound by no creed, save that which every church sees fit to make for itself. This is our distinction above the sects of the old world, that no council of Nice or Trent, no synod of Dort, no assembly at Westminster or Savoy, have any more authority over us that we deem it good to allow. This is American Christianity. It is in sympathy with the broadness of our lakes, the length of our rivers, the freeness of our government, the genius of our social organization. A narrow-minded religionist is no true countryman of ours.

Edwards A. Park.

NOVEMBER 7.

As no proof beside the light is necessary to show that the sun shines, so Jesus proves himself by self-evidence. His life and character are the sufficient attestation of his profession, when he says, "I am from above." Unfolding as a flower from the germ of a perfect youth, growing up to enter into great scenes and have part in great trials, harmonious in all with himself, he is a Lamb in innocence, a God in dignity. He advances the most extravagant pretensions without show of conceit or fault of modesty. He suffers, giving an example of gentleness and patience. He undertakes a plan, universal in extent, perpetual in time, to unite all nations in a kingdom of righteousness, laying his foundations in the hearts of the poor, as no teacher had ever done before. In his teachings he is perfectly original, distinct from his age and from all ages; never warped by the expectation of his friends; always in a balance of truth, running to no extremes, clear of superstition, and equally of liberalism; presenting high doctrines in low and simple forms; establishing a pure, universal morality, never before established; with intense devotion to truth, never anxious, perceptibly, for the success of his doctrine; finally, he grows more great, and wise, and sacred, the more he is known This is Jesus, the Christ, manifestly not of our world, some being who has burst into it, and is not of it. Call him, and say, "We believe that thou camest forth from God."

Horace Bushnell.

NOVEMBER 8.

Nor love thy life, nor hate; but what thou liv'st,
Live well; how long or short, permit to Heaven.

John Milton.

Died Nov. 8, 1674, aged 66.

NOVEMBER 9.

Nature, the winds,
And rolling waves, the sun's unwearied course,
The elements and seasons, all declare
For what the eternal Maker has ordained
The powers of man: we feel within ourselves
His energy divine: He tells the heart,
He meant, He made us to behold and love
What He beholds and loves, the general orb
Of life and being; to be great like Him,
Beneficent and active. Thus the men
Whom nature's works can charm, with God himself
Hold converse, grow familiar, day by day,
With His conceptions, act upon His plan,
And form to His, the relish of their souls.

Mark Akenside, born Nov. 9, 1721.

NOVEMBER 10.

It is an idle dream to suppose that all Christian communities through the world will be merged into a single visible organization. The sense of individuality which leads each community to shape its own forms is no less powerful than the instinct of association. But the sense of individuality is not incompatible with the recognition of brotherhood.

It is no idle dream to conceive of the Christian communities each holding what it prizes as its own, and yet cooperating for the common good with its own officers, weapons, and in its own part of the field, fighting against the common foes of ignorance, selfishness, and sin.

Edwin Hatch.

NOVEMBER 11.

Having undertaken for the glory of) God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and the honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, we by these presents solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation; and by virtue hereof, enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, and officers, from time to time, as may be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape Cod, November 11, 1620. *John Carver,*

And forty others, the "Pilgrim Fathers."

NOVEMBER 12.

I do not see the slightest promise of the organic unity of Christendom on the basis of episcopacy or upon any other basis. I do not see the slightest chance of the harmonizing of Christian doctrine throughout the world, that sight which no man has seen in any age. But I do see signs that, keeping their different thoughts concerning Christ and his teachings, men loyal to Him may be united in the only union which is valuable. In that union I find myself truly one with Peter and Paul, with Origen, Athananins, and Augustine, with Luther, Zwingle, and Calvin, with St. Francis, Bishop Andrews, and Dr. Channing. No union which will not include all these ought to satisfy us, because no other will satisfy the last prayer of Jesus.

Phillips Brooks.

NOVEMBER 13.

It is inherent in the divine order of society that the highest intellect among women, the best she has to offer, should be given to the home. *Ellen Henrotin.*

When on my day of life the night is falling,
And, in the wind from unsunned spaces blown,
I hear far voices out of darkness calling
My feet to paths unknown,
Thou who hast made my home of life so pleasant,
Leave not its tenant when its walls decay;
O Love divine, O Helper ever present,
Be Thou my strength and stay!

John G. Whittier, 1807-1892.

NOVEMBER 14.

The United States of America and the Emperor of China cordially recognize the inherent and inalienable right of man to change his home and allegiance, and also the mutual advantage of the free migration and emigration of their citizens and subjects respectively from one country to the other for purposes of curiosity, of trade, or as permanent residents. (Treaty concluded, July 28, 1868).

Anson Burlingame, U. S. Commissioner.
Born Nov. 14, 1820, died Feb. 23, 1870.

Men, my brothers, men the workers, ever reaping something new;
That which they have done but earnest of the things that they shall do:
Till the war-drum throbbed no longer, and the battle-flags were furled
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.

Alfred Tennyson.

NOVEMBER 15.

My Lords, you cannot conquer America. It is impossible. You may swell every expense and every effort still more extravagantly, pile and accumulate every assistance you can buy or borrow, traffic and barter with every little pitiful German prince that sells and sends his subjects to the shambles of a foreign prince;—your efforts are forever vain and impotent, doubly so from this mercenary aid on which you rely; for it irritates, to an incurable resentment, the minds of your enemies, to overrun them with the mercenary sons of rapine and plunder, devoting them and their possessions to the rapacity of hireling cruelty. If I were an American, as I am an Englishman, while a foreign troop was landed in my country, I never would lay down my arms—never—never. (In the course of the debate, Lord Suffolk defended the employment of Indians in the war, as "justifiable to use all the means that God and nature put into our hands.") I am astonished, shocked, to hear such principles avowed in this House. I could not have slept this night in my bed, nor reposed my head on my pillow, without giving vent to my eternal abhorrence of such principles.

William Pitt (in Parliament, Nov. 18, 1777).
Born Nov. 15, 1718, died May 1778.

NOVEMBER 16.

I see a vast confederation stretching from the frozen north in an unbroken line to the glowing south, and from the wild billows of the Atlantic westward to the calmer waters of the Pacific; and I see one people and one language, one faith and one law, and, over all the continent, the home of freedom and a refuge for the oppressed of every race and clime. *John Bright*, born Nov. 16, 1811.

NOVEMBER 17.

Make known by every means you can the personal Christ, not doctrine about Him, but Him. Let faith mean trusting Him, and trying to obey Him. Call any man a Christian who is following Him. Offer Him to the world, as He is forever offering Himself. Claim and express the fellowship of faith with all believers, whatever name they bear. Let not religion seem the affair of a party. Hardly any man does more for scepticism than he who while the world is trembling on the brink of atheism spends his life in championing the shibboleth of his denomination. The life of Jesus must be the centre of all preaching. The church must put off her look of selfishness. She must first deeply feel and then frankly say that she exists not as the ark where a choice few may take refuge, but as the promise and potency of the new heavens and the new earth she must offer herself to men, *Phillips Brooks.*

NOVEMBER 18.

We desire to see the grace of God shining forth in all we admit into church fellowship, and to keep off such as openly wallow in the mire of their sins.

Edward Winslow, born Oct. 19, 1595.

One ship sails east, another west,
With the same winds that blow;
The set of the sails, not the gales,
Determines where they go.

Like the winds are the ways of fate
Upon our voyage of life:
The set of soul decides the goal,
And not the calm or strife.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

NOVEMBER 19.

What we find in the New Testament as to a gradual communication of truth, relates to this one point: that the disciples were to be led on gently to a sense of the unimportance of the ceremonies of the Jewish law. Christianity was given complete, as to its own truths, from the beginning of the Gospel; but the sufficiency of these truths, the needlessness of any other system as joined with them, was to be learned only by degrees; unhappily, it never was learned fully The perfection, of which the Epistle to the Hebrews speaks as not reached by those to whom the author was writing, was by the mass of the church never reached at all; because Judaism incorporated itself with Christianity, and destroyed Christian truths, to substitute its own falsehood. The superstitiou of the Judaizers consists not in reverence for the sacraments, which Christ appointed as instruments of good, but in having drawn off attention from the important part of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, to regard God's grace not as conveyed by them morally, but after the manner of a charm, in consequence of words pronounced by a priest;—which contains the essence of the unchristian and mischievous view of the sacraments entertained by the Romish and Anglican popery.

Thomas Arnold.

NOVEMBER 20.

The causes of superstition are pleasing and sensuall rites and ceremonies; excess of outward and pharisaical holiness; over-great reverence of traditions which load the church; the stratagems of prelates for their own ambition and lucre.

Francis Bacon.

NOVEMBER 21.

Catholicism makes the relation of the believer to Christ to depend on his relation to the church; Protestantism make the relation of the believer to the church to depend on his relation to Christ.

Friedrich Schleiermacher, born Nov. 21, 1768.

I believe our country to be blessed with higher privileges, and preparing for a more glorious future than any other nation. It is for us to decide higher problems and develop greater principles than has been the lot of any other people. For us are three questions: whether the black man and the white can live together in equality; whether a free people can by freedom perpetuate law and government; whether the Church can be separated from the State, and still the State be pure and Christian.

Henry Boynton Smith, born Nov. 21, 1815.

NOVEMBER 22.

The truth commands you. Either you obey, and it will lead you, or you disobey, and it will hang on you with the weight of a chain which you will drag forever. Can man or woman choose duties? No more than they can choose their birth-place, or their father and mother. If you forsake your place, who will fill it? Every bond of life is a debt; the right lies in the payment of that debt. In vain will you wander over the earth; you will be wandering for ever from the right. That hallowed motive which men call Duty can have no inward constraining existence save through some form of believing love. The higher life begins when we renounce our will to bow before a divine law. This is the portal of wisdom, freedom, blessedness. The symbol of it is the Cross, the image of a supreme offering, made by supreme love.

George Eliot (Marian Evans), born Nov. 22, 1819.

NOVEMBER 23.

The words of Jesus were not the roaring wind, the shattering earthquake, the devouring fire, but the gentle breeze, the refreshing dew, the still small voice of love. It was not the desolate solitudes of Horeb and the stony plains of Perea, in which he preached, but in the garden of the Jewish world, by the blue Lake of Galilee, where the smiling corn-fields, the soft-eyed flowers, the sweet meadows, made the loveliest spot in Palestine. Where Elijah and John the Bapist failed, Jesus succeeded. That tender power entered into the heart of the human race, and men bowed before it as corn before the summer wind. Sin and wrong, cruelty and injustice, superstition, idolatry, immorality, luxury, melted before it like snow from a mountain side; and all the flowers of goodness, of love, faith, hope, and joy, sprang up in the soul. The vast power was His, which endures in the reverence, affection, and inspiration of mankind. There, my people, is your power hidden; in lovingkindness, in the winning way, the gentle word. Anger and bluster, the storm of denunciation, the earthquake and fire pass away. But love and pity and the still voice of gentleness never fail. *Stopford A. Brooke.*

NOVEMBER 24.

(John Knox died Nov. 24, 1572) But for him the Reformation would have been overthrown in England, Elizabeth would have been flung from off her throne, or have gone back into the Egypt for which she was too often casting wistful eyes. *James Anthony Froude,* 1818—

Whatever the pretensions of any body of men, they are sure to abuse power, if much of it is conferred upon them. The entire history of the world affords no instance to the contrary. *Henry Thomas Buckle,* born Nov. 24, 1821.

NOVEMBER 25.

Some are best frightened from sin and ruin by terror; their fear is the properest passion to address. I thought it lawful to take hold of any handling of the soul to lead it away from vicious pleasure; and if I could make up a composition of virtue and delight, suited to youth, I had some hope to allure and raise them above temptation. When I felt an inclination to satire or burlesque, I thought proper to suppress it. The grinning and growling muse are not hard to be obtained; but I would disdain their assistance where a manly invitation to virtue and a friendly smile may be successfully employed. Could I persuade a man by a kindlier method, I should never scold or laugh at him.

Many a line needs the file to polish it, and many a thought wants richer language to make it shine.

He that has treasures of his own,
May leave the cottage or the throne,
May quit the globe, and dwell alone
Within his spacious mind.

Isaac Watts, died Nov. 25, 1748, aged 74.

NOVEMBER 26.

Now stir the fire, and close the shutters fast,
Let fall the curtains, wheel the sofa round,
And, while the bubbling and loud hissing urn
Throws up a steaming column, and the cups,
That cheer but not inebriate, wait on each;—
So let us welcome peaceful evening in.

The kindest and the happiest pair
Will find occasion to forbear;
And something every day they live,
To pity, and perhaps forgive.

William Cowper, born Nov. 26, 1731.

NOVEMBER 27.

The Lord of all, himself through all diffused,
Sustains, and is the life of all that lives.
Nature is but a name for an effect,
Whose cause is God. He feeds the sacred fire
By which the mighty process is maintained;
Rules universal nature. Not a flower
But shows some touch, in freckle, streak, or stain,
Of his unrivalled pencil He inspires
Their balmy odors, and imparts their hues.
Happy who walks with Him! whom what he finds
Of flavor or of scent in fruit or flower,
Or what he views of beautiful or grand
In nature, from the broad majestic oak
To the green blade that twinkles in the sun,
Prompts with remembrance of a present God.

W. Cowper.

NOVEMBER 28.

In our age no one has conceived and presented the truth of the universal priesthood of Christians with so much life, and in such close connection with the marrow of Christian doctrine, and made it tell so convincingly against the assumptions of the clergy church, as Thomas Arnold. The spirit of this revered apostle of the Free Church of the Future departed before he had completed the work of his life. He was taken from us before the stern combat has begun in earnest on either side. But he has left to his own people, whose love and admiration is his worthiest monument, a life-inspiring testimony, not only in his writings, but in his whole life,—the model of an enlightened, faithful and disinterested inquirer after truth, and of a spirit of love and humility, not less than of freedom and power.

C. C. J. Bunsen, died Nov. 28, 1860, aged 69.

NOVEMBER 29.

(Asked for his terms as a lecturer) If I speak on Anti-Slavery, nothing; if on any other subject, one hundred dollars

Every race has its peculiar temptations, every clime its specific sin. The tropical races are tempted to one form of sensuality; the colder and temperate regions and our Saxon blood find their temptation in the stimulus of drink. We relieve the weariness of exhaustive toil by intoxication. Science puts into the hands of workmen the means of being drunk for a week on the labor of two or three hours. With that blood and that temptation we have adopted democratic institutions, where law rests not on bayonets as in Europe, but on the hearts of the people. A drunken people can never be the basis of a free government. The presence of a vice which brutalizes is a stab at the life of the Nation. To stay the evil, close the doors of temptation, stop the open sale of intoxicating drinks.

Wendell Phillips, born Nov. 29, 1811.

NOVEMBER 30.

All good things await
Him who cares not to be great,
But as he saves or serves the State.
The path of Duty is the way to glory:
He that walks it, only thirsting
For the right, and learns to deaden
Love of self, following her commands
With toil of heart and knees and hands,
Shall find the toppling crags of duty scaled
Are close upon the shining table-lands,
Where God himself is sun.

Alfred Tennyson.

DECEMBER 1.

Friend, thou art entering the last month of another year. If thou art a man of business and prudent care, thou wilt now settle thy accounts. This is commendable; but not all. Wilt thou not examine thy moral accounts, and see what improvements thou hast made in the conduct of life, what vice subdued, what virtue acquired, how much better and wiser, as well as richer, thou art? Without care in this matter, though thou count thy thousands, thou wilt appear poor in the eyes of the discerning even here, and be really so for ever hereafter. *Benjamin Franklin.*

DECEMBER 2.

It is not possible for me to change my belief any more than to change my body. I cannot believe otherwise than I do at this moment, when I am preparing to return to God from whom I came. I do not say that my faith has been the only true faith for all times; but I do not see any other that is clearer, or better responds to the requirements of my mind. If there should be revealed another faith better satisfying me, I would adopt it at once; for truth is the only thing of importance to God. As for returning to the doctrines from which I emancipated at the price of so much suffering, I cannot do so. The bird that has taken its flight can never return to the shell out of which it came.

Tolstoy.

Answer to the decree of excommunication by the Holy Synod of Russia, April, 1901.

DECEMBER 3.

I learn that to obey is best,
And love with fear the only God; to walk
As in his presence; ever to observe
His providence; and on Him sole depend,
Merciful over all his works, with good
Overcoming evil: that suffering for truth's sake
Is fortitude to highest victory,
And, to the faithful, death the gate of life.
Taught this by his example, whom I now
Acknowledge my Redeemer, ever blest.

John Milton.

DECEMBER 4.

This having learned, thou hast attained the sum
Of wisdom; hope no higher, though all the stars
Thou knew'st by name, and all the ethereal powers,
All secrets of the deep, all nature's works,
Or works of God in heaven, air, earth, or sea,
And all the riches of this world enjoyedst,
And all the rule, one empire; only add
Deeds to thy knowledge answerable; add faith,
Add virtue, patience, temperance; add love,
By name to come called charity, the soul
Of all the rest: then thou shalt possess
A Paradise within thee.

John Milton.

DECEMBER 5.

I make no disavowal of the fact that there is a mystic element in language, and in the views of Christian life and doctrine I have presented Man in his nature is a partially mystic being, the world a mystic world. Christ revealed a mystic element in his teachings. There is something of a mystic quality in almost every writing of the New Testament In John, it is a character. In Paul, there are many passages as mystical as any in John. The last thing to be feared is that our style of religion will receive damage from the entrance of a mystical element. There is nothing we so much need as an apostle John. There is surely to be a time when narrow and restrictive dogmas will be burned up in the original fires of the apostolic age, rekindled in the church.

It is a common error to fill our imagination out of our memories, and think that what has been shall be again, and that nothing else should be. But God is under no such terms of poverty that He can only fill his quiver with arrows He has shot before. What then? Certainly new stages of advance, higher ascensions of spiritual life, a supernatural bestowment of God upon men, an open state between God and men. Men have been able to receive only a little of the divine, or none at all; but when they attain a conviction that the supernatural is the complement of nature, there will be an opening of their bosoms to the divine as a general and blessed fact.

Horace Bushnell.

DECEMBER 6.

When Truth is the chief passion, it does not give way to vulgar cares, nor is it contented with a little ardor in the early time of life. He that would make progress in knowledge must dedicate his age as well as youth, the later growth as well as first fruits, at the altar of Truth.

George Berkeley.

DECEMBER 7.

O you that name yourselves by that worthy name of Christians, consider the great Apostle of your profession, who took our flesh that we might partake of his spirit. He came to discover his Father's love, and win yours. He came to exemplify to the world in his own person how much of heaven he could make to dwell in mortal flesh; how possible he could make it to live in this world as unrelated to it; how the divine life could triumph over the infirmities of frail humanity, and have a certain proof and pledge to what perfection human nature could be improved by his grace in them that should resign themselves to his conduct, and follow his steps; that heaven and earth were not so far asunder but he knew how to settle a commerce and intercourse between them; that a heavenly life was possible to be transacted here, and certain to be rewarded and perfected hereafter. *John Howe*, 1630-1705.

DECEMBER 8.

I expect to pass through the world but once; if, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect; for I shall not pass this way again. *Edward Courtenay.*

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad his wonderful name:
The name all victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.
Charles Wesley, born Dec. 18, 1708.

DECEMBEN 9.

From my very youth I have been bent upon such studies as inclined me, if not to do great things myself, to celebrate those that did. My appetite for knowledge was so voracious, that from twelve years of age I hardly ever left my studies before midnight. This primarily led to my loss of sight. My father had me daily instructed in the grammar school, and by other masters at home. He then sent me to the University of Cambridge. Here I passed seven years in the usual course of instruction, with the approbation of the good, and without any stain upon my character.

I invoke the Almighty to witness, that I never at any time wrote anything which I did not think agreeable to truth, to justice, and to piety. Nor was I ever prompted by the influence of ambition, by the lust of lucre or of power; it was only by the conviction of duty, and the feeling of patriotism, passion for the extension of civil and religious liberty. In my blindness, I enjoy in no inconsiderable degree the favor of the Deity, who regards me with more tenderness in proportion as I am able to behold nothing but himself. To this I ascribe the tender assiduities of my friends, their soothing attention, kind visits, their reverential observances. *John Milton,* born Dec. 9, 1608.

DECEMBER 10.

(Luther burnt the pope's bull, Dec. 10, 1520).

What! Shall one monk, scarce known beyond his cell,
Front Rome's far-reaching bolts, and scorn her frown?
Brave Luther answered YES; that thunder's swell
Rocked Europe, and discharmed the triple crown.

J. R. Lowell.

DECEMBER 11.

The hope of a future life nestles in the heart of the race. When savages bury with the dead man his weapons and utensils, in order that he may start with a full equipment, they believe that he is somewhere. When the Athenians went out to Eleusis, in March, as the life of the year springs, and in September as it fades, and held a solemn function, it was not only that they might live happily, but "might die with a fairer hope," as Cicero puts it. The Eleusinian mysteries must have been a great support for the pious of the time, and served the purpose of a conference for deepening spiritual life. There may be a few who would be content that their life should be flung back like a cupful of water into the stream from which it was taken; but to the race the destruction of the hope would be irreparable. This instinct Jesus did not belittle. He made a distinction between life as mere physical existence, a soul inert and unconscious, and life spiritual, a soul receptive and active. Mere existence he called death, and startled men with the paradox, "Let the dead bury their dead."

John Watson (Ian Maclaren).

DECEMBER 12.

He who loves God will not desire that God should love him in return with a partial or particular affection; for that is to desire God for his sake to change his nature and become less than Himself.

Benedict Spinoza, 1632-1677.

The first of all Christian truths is, that Truth should be loved above all. *Blaise Pascal.*

DECEMBER 13.

We are told that "God is Spirit," that "God is Light," but most emphatically and repeatedly, that "God is Love." It is a definition which has never been reasserted in any creed; but it encourages us to take so hopeful a view of the Supreme governance of the world, as to say that the expression of the Supreme mind is above all else "Love," or as the Latin phrase goes, "God is Charity." The Evangelist, and they who were with him in that climax and crisis of the religious history of mankind, received a new impression of the Divine nature. The prevailing expression of that countenance which they beheld beside the Lake of Galilee, and from the Cross of Calvary, was Love. In that face they felt that they had seen the face of God. The declaration that God is Love, expresses the source of the strength of the Divine nature, gives harmony to the idea of the Eternal. It is founded on the belief that Goodness is the essence of the Divine nature.

A. P. Stanley, born Dec. 13, 1815.

DECEMBER 14.

What figure more immovably august
Than that grave strength so patient and so pure,
Calm in good fortune, when it wavered, sure;
That mind serene, impenetrably just,
That soul so softly radiant and so white,
So simple in its grandeur, standing there
In perfect symmetry of self-control?
Soldier and statesman, rarest union;
High-poised example of great duties done;
There is but one, our Washington (died Dec. 14, 1799).

J. R. Lowell.

DECEMBER 15.

It is asked whether the Historical Christ, who lived eighteen hundred years ago, is still amongst us, and how and where His presence is to be found and felt. The best answer is the answer of the Apostle, "To live is Christ." It is so on the smallest scale in our individual existence. It is so on the largest scale. The life of Christendom is the continuation of the life of Christ. It is through multitudinous living human hearts, human acts and words of love and truth, that the Christ of the first century becomes the Christ of the nineteenth. Each successive age, each separate nation does His work on a larger and still larger scale. The arts, literature, sciences, charities, liberties, laws, worship of the Christian commonwealths, are parts of the living body of Christ. Their influence is His influence. Their benefits are part of the innumerable benefits of His Cross and Passion. To live under the best Christian influences, this for us, and this only, is—the Apostle allows us to say—Christ Himself. *A. P. Stanley.*

DECEMBER 16.

God takes care of his saints when their spirits leave their clay tabernacles, and take their course to the world of light. There is reason to believe that He appoints one or more of his holy angels to lead every pious departed spirit to the regions of the blest. Lazarus was carried to Abraham's bosom. Peter had his guardian angel, and it is probable that every saint has his guardian angel, who attends him through life, takes care of his departed spirit, and conducts him to the mansions Christ has gone before to provide. After this, God will take care of the newly arrived spirits, and give their angels charge to make them known to those with whom they were once united in Christian affection. Their employments will be pointed out, as well as their due rewards allotted them.

Nathaniel Emmons, 1745-1840.

DECEMBER 17.

With silence only as their benediction,
God's angels come
Where, in the shadow of a great affliction,
The soul sits dumb.
Yet would I say what thy own heart approveth:
Our Father's will,
Calling to Him the dear one whom He loveth.
Is mercy still.
Not upon thee or thine the solemn angel
Hath evil wrought:
Her funeral anthem is a glad evangel,—
The good die not.

J. G. Whittier, born Dec. 17, 1807.

The Christian's home is whereso'er
Christ's Spirit breathes a holier air;
Where Christlike Faith is keen to seek
What Truth or Conscience freely speak;
Where Christlike Love delights to span
The rents that sever man from man;
Where round God's throne His just ones stand;
There, Christian, is thy Fatherland.

A. P. Stanley.

DECEMBER 18.

Let each eye that sees thee, see
Something of the Christ in thee,
And each man who hears thee, hear
Jesus whispering in his ear.

Saint Patrick, 372-464.

DECEMBER 19.

Large bodies are far more likely to err than individuals. The passions are inflamed by sympathy; the fear of punishment and the sense of shame are diminished by partition. Every day we see men do for their faction what they would die rather than do for themselves.

T. B. Macaulay.

DECEMBER 20.

There were the strongest reasons why America could not grow into a repetition of England. Passing from an island to a continent, the colonists altered their condition in relation to the most important of all social facts, the possession of the soil. In England, inequality lies imbedded in the very base of the social structure; in America, it is a late, incidental, unrecognized product, not of tradition, but of industry and wealth, as they advance with unequal steps. Heredity, an idea in the heart's core of Englishmen, was absent from the colonists. Equality with liberty was the groundwork of their social creed. Slavery failed to impair the theory, however it imported into practice a hideous solecism. No hardier product of republicanism was generated in New England than in the Slave States.

The great acts and the great forbearance which followed the close of the Civil War, proceeding from the choice and conviction of the people, have, in doing honor to the United States, also rendered a splendid service to the cause of popular government throughout the world.

William E. Gladstone, 1809-1898.

DECEMBER 21.

(In Westminster Abbey, July 4, 1880) It is not for me to glorify to-night the country which I love with all my heart and soul. But on my country's birthday I may do something more solemn and more worthy of the hour. I may ask you for your prayer on her behalf. That on the manifold and wondrous chance which God is giving her,—on her freedom, her unconstrained religious life, her passion for education, her eager search for truth, her care for the poor man's rights and opportunities, her countless quiet homes where the future generations of her men are growing, her manufactures and commerce, her wide gates open to the east and to the west, her strange meetings of the races out of which a new race is slowly being born, her vast enterprise and illuminated hopefulness,—on all these materials and machineries of manhood, on all that the life of my country must mean for humanity, I may ask you to pray that the blessing of God the Father of man, and Christ the Son of man, may rest forever.

Because here, under this high and hospitable roof of God, we are all more than Englishmen and more than Americans; because we are men, children of God, waiting for the full coming of our Father's kingdom, I ask you for that prayer. *Phillips Brooks*, born Dec. 13, 1835.

DECEMBER 22.

Plymouth Rock has become an object of veneration in the United States. I have seen bits of it carefully preserved in several towns of the Union. Does not this show that all human greatness is in the soul? Here is a stone which the feet of a few outcasts pressed for an instant; and the stone becomes famous; it is treasured by a great nation; its very dust is shared as a relic. And what has become of the gateways of a thousand palaces? Who cares for them? *Alexis De Tocqueville*, 1805-1859.

DECEMBER 23.

Our past should spontaneously as from a germ evolve a wise, moral and glorious future. Our founders, those heroic men and women, should not look down on a dwindled posterity. They who keep the graves, bear the name, and boast the blood of men in whom the loftiest sense of duty blended with the fiercest spirit of liberty, should add to their freedom, justice, that venerable virtue, without which freedom, valor, and power are but vulgar things; justice to all men, justice to all nations.

Rufus Choate.

DECEMBER 24.

Two of the writers of the New Testament, Matthew, Luke, affirm the birth of Jesus from the natural side, one of them, John, from the supernatural. The commingling of the two streams of life is one of the inscrutable mysteries. Within our humanity, deeper than all its wrappages, is the immanent Deity, the inspiring energy on which we ever draw, out of which we breathe the breath of life. But He never invades our consciousness. When His life beomes our life, it is no longer Divine, but human, and within our voluntary agency, to give back to Him in self-renouncing service, or pervert to selfish ends. Supposing it possible for a being to be born into our earthly existence with humanity on one side, and the Divine Spirit on the other, it is conceivable that it would image the Divine perfection on a loftier plane. Such a person would not be a case of mere prophetic inspiration, but of Divine incarnation, the voice of Divine Reason, the normal dictate of the soul. In a person divinely human there would be nothing unnatural, but nature transfigured, exalted, humanity made perfect, the clear and spotless mirror in which the Divine attributes shine forth upon the world.

Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876.

DECEMBER 25.

"Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all-gracious King"—
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.
But man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;—
Oh hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

E. H. Sears.

O thou great Friend to all the sons of men,
Who once appeared in humble guise below,
Sin to rebuke, to break the captive's chain,
And call thy brethren forth from want and woe;—
We look to Thee! thy truth is still the light
Which guides the nations, groping on their way,
Stumbling and falling in disastrous night,
Yet hoping ever for the perfect day.

Theodore Parker, 1810- 1860.

DECEMBER 26.

Look within the churches, and see the images of willing anguish for a great end, of beneficent love and ascending glory; see upturned faces and lips moving to the old prayers for help. These things have not changed. The sunlight and shadows bring their old beauty, and waken the heart-strains at morning, noon, and evening; the little children are still the symbol of the eternal marriage between love and duty; men still yearn for the reign of righteousness and peace, and own that life the highest which is a conscious voluntary sacrifice.

Our deeds follow us from afar,
And what we have been makes us what we are.

George Eliot.

DECEMBER 27.

Advance, ye future generations! We welcome you to the blessings of good government and religious liberty, to the treasures of science and the delights of learning. We welcome you to the transcendent sweets of domestic life, to the happiness of kindred, and parents, and children. We welcome you to the immeasurable blessings of rational existence, the immortal hopes of Christianity, and the light of everlasting life. *Daniel Webster.*

DECEMBER 28.

Ye who would have your features florid,
Lithe limbs, bright eyes, unwrinkled forehead,
From age's devastation horrid,
Adopt this plan,—
'Twill make in climate cold or torrid,
A hale old man.

Avoid in youth luxurious diet,
Restrain the passions' lawless riot;
Devoted to domestic quiet,
Be wisely gay;
So shall ye, spite of age's fiat,
Resist decay.

Seek not in Mammon's worship pleasure,
But find your dearest, richest treasure
In God, His word, His work, not leisure:
The mind, not sense,
Is the sole scale by which to measure
Your opulence.

Horace Smith, 1779-1849.

DECEMBER 29.

We cannot maintain the authority of religious truth, unless it be preached by men to whom others shall have occasion to look up. A thinking, reading, inquisitive, free people, who have much of the civil and ecclesiastical power in their own hands, require of their preacher more acumen, learning, more of moral excellence, than has been demanded in other lands. They make it needful for the minister to push his investigations beyond the line to which his predecessors advanced, and search for wisdom among treasures yet hidden.

Edwards A. Park, born Dec. 29, 1808.

DECEMBER 30.

O may I join the choir invisible
Of those immortal dead who live again
In minds made better by their presence; live
In pulses stirred to generosity,
In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn
For miserable aims that end with self,
In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars,
And with their mild persistence urge man's search
To vaster issues.

George Eliot.

DECEMBER 31.

It would be difficult in a democratic government to overestimate the importance of publicity in the management of corporate enterprises. Many an abuse which would otherwise linger to vex the public dissipates itself when brought into the light of public opinion.

Henry Carter Adams, born Dec. 31, 1853.

The end crowns all;
And that old common arbitrator, Time,
Will one day end it.

Shakespeare.

Now the truer life draws nigher,
Every year;
And the morning star climbs higher,
Every year;
Earth's hold on us grows slighter,
And the heavy burdens lighter,
And the dawn immortal brighter,
Every year.

Albert Pike, Dec. 29, 1809—Ap. 2, 1891.

Be ours to heed the lesson while we may,
Look up for light to guide us on our way,
Look forward bravely, but not weakly back;
The past is done with, mind the coming track;
Look in with searching eye and courage stout,
But when temptations come, look out! look out!

Oliver Wendell Holmes,
Aug. 29, 1809—Oct. 7, 1894.

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